This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

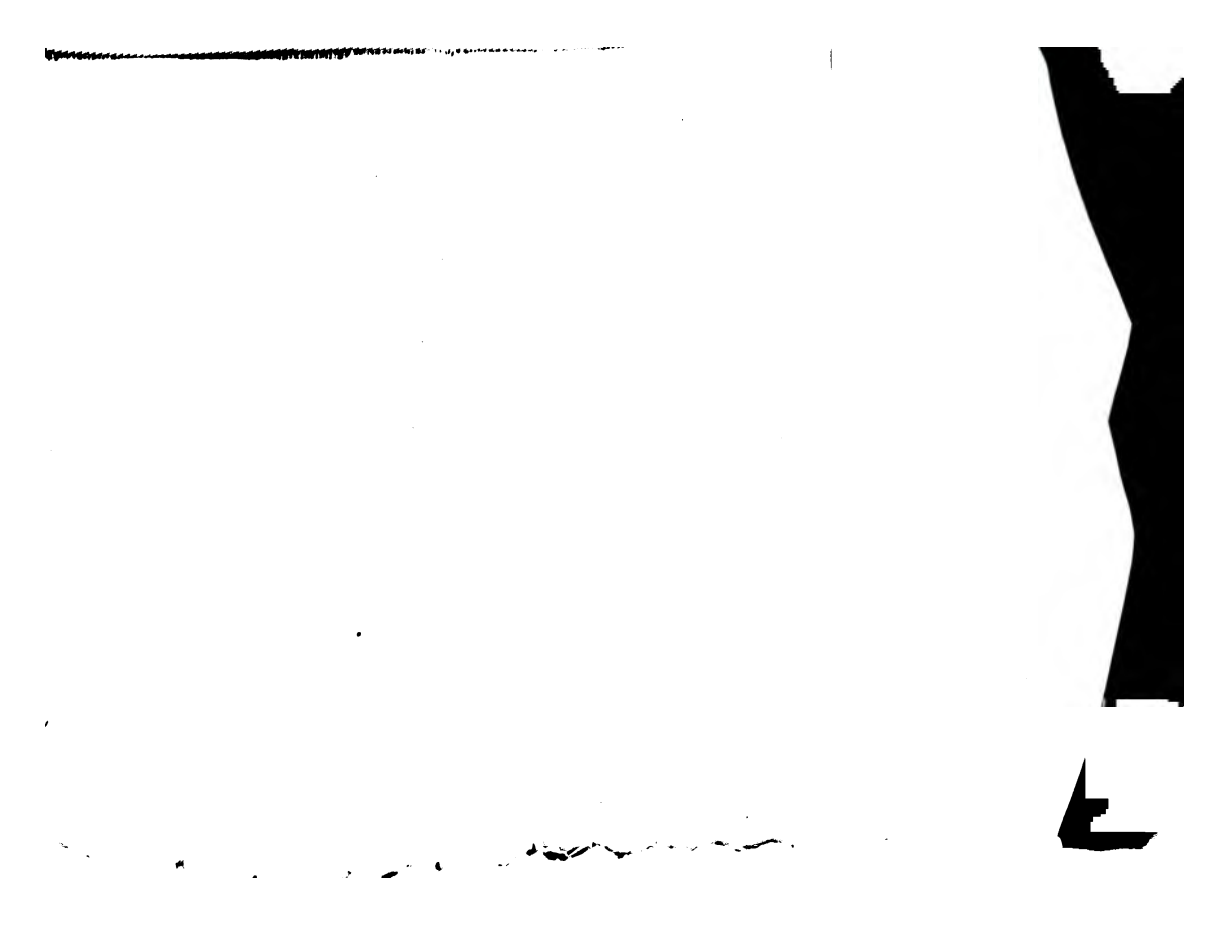
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

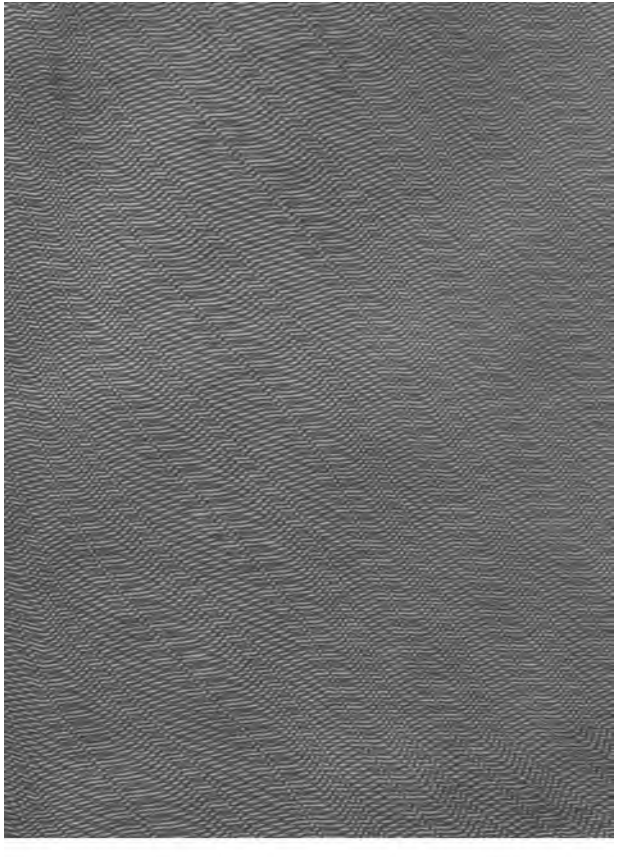
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

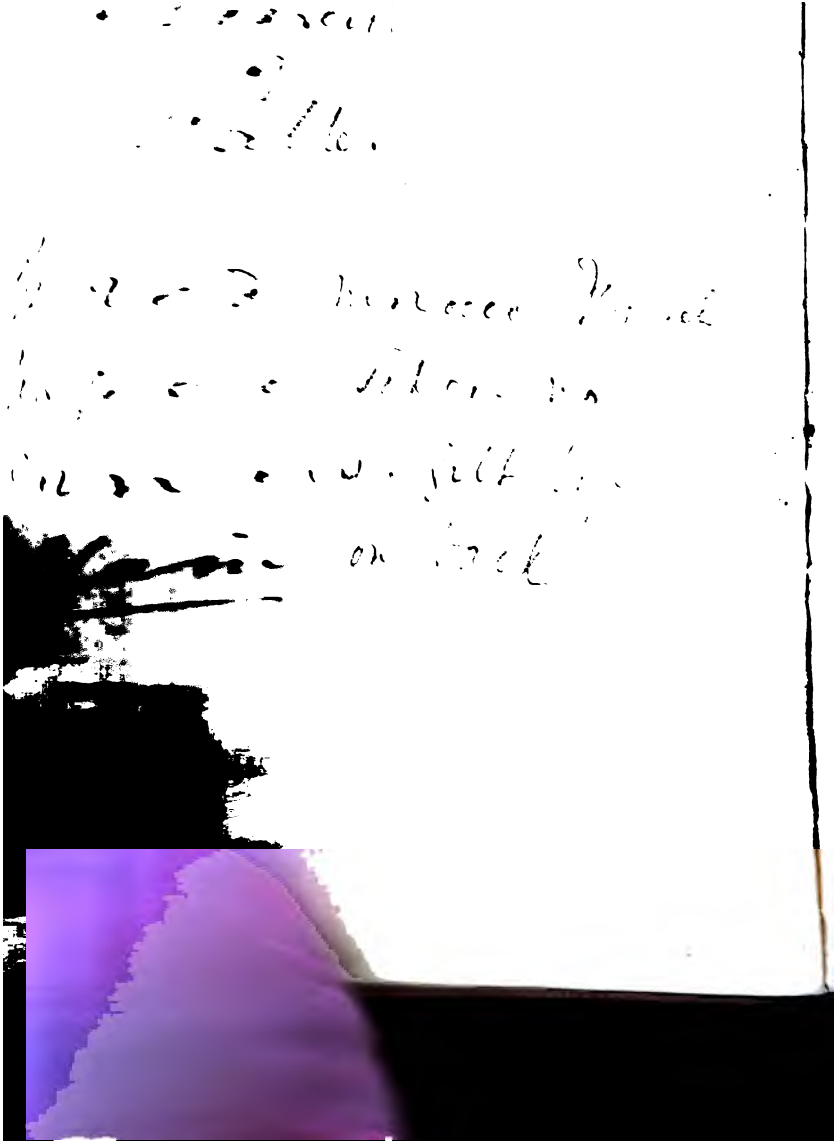
About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES
3 3433 06819828 6







LONDON:

VIZETELLY, BRANSTON AND CO. PRINTERS,

FLEET STREET.

CONTENTS.

		Page
Ambitious Goose	*Lessing*	128
Angler and Little Fish	*Croxall*	161
Ant and Grasshopper	*Croxall*	46
Ass and Lamb	*Krasicki*	292
Barley-Mow and Dunghill	*Gay*	73
Bears and Bees	*Merrick*	295
Bird-Call	*Krasicki*	241
Boy and Butterfly	*Dodsley*	322
Boy and Filberts	*Epictetus*	301
Boy and Wasp	*Pignotti*	169
Boys and Frogs	*Dodsley*	166
Brahmin, Hedgehog, Snail and Sensitive-Plant	*Anonymous*	269
Brook and Fountain	*Krasicki*	151
Brother and Sister	*Croxall*	57
Bull and Mastiff	*Gay*	119
Butterfly and Lamp	*Senegal Fables*	312
Butterfly and Snail	*Gay*	17
Butterfly, Snail, and Bee	*Dodsley*	113
Camel and Jupiter	*Dutch*	184
Cat and Poet	*Cowper*	276
Cat, Cock, and Young Mouse	*Dodsley*	385
Chameleon, The	*Merrick*	227
Cock and Jewel	*Croxall*	171
Colt and Farmer	*Moore*	43
Cookmaid, Turnspit, and Ox	*Gay*	139
Council of Horses	*Gay*	62
Countryman and Jupiter	*Gay*	89
Countryman and Raven	*Cowper*	158
Cricket and Nightingale	*Lessing*	350
Crow and Pitcher	*Croxall*	225
Cur and Mastiff	*Gay*	111
Cur, Horse, and Shepherd's Dog	*Gay*	85
Dancing Bear	*Gellert*	102
Diamond and Loadstone	*Dodsley*	15
Discontented Horse	*Lessing*	33
Dog and Cat	*Denis*	253

		Page
Kite and Nightingale	*Moore*	122
Lark and her Young Ones	*Croxall*	278
Lily and Rose	*Cowper*	223
Lion and Bulls	*Esop*	347
Lion and Cub	*Gay*	333
Lion and Gnat	*Lessing*	314
Lion and Mouse	*Dodsley*	230
Lion, Bear, and Fox	*Croxall*	305
Lion, Fox, and Geese	*Gay*	204
Lion, Tiger, and Traveller	*Gay*	287
Little Puppy	*Original*	327
Man and his Coat	*Krasicki*	345
Mercury and Woodman	*Croxall*	137
Mice and Trap	*Dutch*	142
Mice in Council	*La Fontaine*	259
Miller, his Son, and Ass	*La Fontaine*	75
Miser and his Treasure	*Dodsley*	186
Miser and Plutus	*Gay*	155
Monkey and Cat	*La Fontaine*	341
Mouse and Elephant	*Pignotti*	115
Needless Alarm	*Cowper*	263
Nightingale and Goldfinch	*Gellert*	127
Nightingale and Glow-Worm	*Cowper*	182
Old Bullinch and Young Birds	*Cowper*	30
Old Hen and Young Cock	*Gay*	145
Old Hound and Huntsman	*Croxall*	261
Old Man and his Sons	*Croxall*	41
Old Swallow and Young Birds	*Dodsley*	125
Ornamented Bow	*Lessing*	296
Packhorse and Carrier	*Gay*	20
Peacock's Complaint	*Croxall*	28
Peasants, Hens, Ducks, Pigeons, and Bees	*Dutch*	180
Pike and other Fish	*Dutch*	239
Pin and Needle	*Gay*	319
Ploughshare and Sword	*Denis*	232
Poet, Oyster, and Sensitive-Plant	*Cowper*	177
Proud Frog	*Dodsley*	251
Rat and Oyster	*La Fontaine*	82
Raven, Flies, and Bee	*Dutch*	290

		Page
Redbreast and Sparrow	*Dodsley*	65
River and its Fountains	*Dutch*	202
Robin and Rook	*Sentimental Fables*	163
Sensitive-Plant and Palm-Tree	*Dodsley*	97
Sheep-Biter and Shepherd	*Croxall*	153
Shepherd and Philosopher	*Gay*	11
Shepherd's Dog and Wolf	*Gay*	55
Silly Champaigne	*Krasicki*	199
Spaniel and Chameleon	*Gay*	167
Spiders, Flies, and Swallows	*Dutch*	285
Sportsman and Spaniel	*Dodsley*	121
Stag in the Ox-stall	*Croxall*	35
Sun-Flower and Ivy	*Langhorne*	193
Tentyrites and Ichneumon	*Dodsley*	310
Toad and Ephemeron	*Dodsley*	281
Town Mouse and Country Mouse	*Pope*	66
Travelled Monkey	*Gay*	213
Trouts and Gudgeon	*Dodsley*	343
Tulip and Myrtle	*Langhorne*	172
Turkey and Ant	*Gay*	95
Two Bees	*Dodsley*	105
Two Foxes	*Dodsley*	117
Two Pots	*Arwaker*	256
Two Springs	*Dodsley*	134
Vain Jackdaw	*Croxall*	235
Vine, The	*Herder*	181
Viper and File	*La Fontaine*	318
Virtue, Genius, and Reputation	*Denis*	219
Wagoner and Butterfly	*Krasicki*	99
Warrior Wolf	*Lessing*	71
Wasps and Bees	*Dodsley*	175
Wind, Sun, and Traveller	*Croxall*	93
Wine and Water	*Krasicki*	143
Wolf and Lamb	*Croxall*	221
Wolf and Shepherds	*Lessing*	244
Wolf, Fox, and Ass	*Dutch*	209
Young Man and Swallow	*Croxall*	217
Youth and Honeysuckle	*Floral Fables*	237
Youth and Philosopher	*Whitehead*	339

THE present is an attempt to place in the hands of youth such a collection of Fables as shall be auxiliary to the grand purpose of all education,—the improvement of the mind.

All former works of the kind have professed this object; but with what indifferent success, a slight investigation of their contents will sufficiently prove. Independently of the grossness of many Fables, the majority inculcate craft, selfishness, or expediency; qualities which might well, perhaps, be implanted in the juvenile mind, had education no higher object than to furnish the means of getting through the world, with cunning and dexterity; but which must prove totally

been imagined, that every description of Fable was only an amusing medium of conveying instruction to the young; and the idea of rejection or alteration, on the score of unfitness, appears never to have been contemplated.

In the present Work, care has not only been taken in the selection, but objectionable expressions have been altered, whenever, in other respects, the Fable appeared deserving of a place in the collection. A much greater variety of sources has also been resorted to than in any former work, and nearly the whole of the translations are original.

Another point of difference, which the Editor has aimed at producing, is in the triteness and brevity of the moral attached to each Fable. The dull, lengthy applications of Croxall, and other prosing commentators, are entirely discarded, as entering too much into the worldly policy of maturer years, to be proper for youth; and as being too tedious to arrest his attention. "There is no possibility," says the acute Dodsley, in his Essay on Fable, "of impressing the moral deeper, by that load, we too often see, of accumulated reflections. Strictly speaking, one should render needless any detached or explicit moral. Æsop, the father of this kind of writing, disclaimed any such assistance."

FLOWERS
OF
FABLE.

FABLE I.

The Shepherd and the Philosopher.

[From Gay.]

REMOTE from cities liv'd a swain,
Unvex'd with all the cares of gain;
His head was silver'd o'er with age,
And long experience made him sage;
In summer's heat, and winter's cold,
He fed his flock, and penn'd the fold.
His hours in cheerful labours flew,
Nor envy, nor ambition knew.
His wisdom and his honest fame
Through all the country rais'd his name.

A deep PHILOSOPHER (whose rules
Of moral life were drawn from schools)
The SHEPHERD's homely cottage sought,
And thus explor'd his reach of thought:—

"Whence is thy learning? Hath thy toil
O'er books consum'd the midnight oil?
Hast thou old Greece and Rome survey'd,
And the vast sense of Plato weigh'd?
Has Socrates thy soul refin'd?
And hast thou fathom'd Tully's mind?
Or, like the wise Ulysses thrown,
By various fates, on realms unknown;
Hast thou through many cities stray'd,
Their customs, laws, and manners weigh'd?"

The SHEPHERD modestly replied,
"I ne'er the paths of learning tried;
Nor have I roam'd in foreign parts,
To read mankind, their laws, and arts;
[illegible]an is practis'd in disguise,
[illegible]ts the most discerning eyes.
[illegible] that search, shall wiser grow,
[illegible] we ourselves can never know?
[illegible]little knowledge I have gain'd,
[illegible]as all from simple Nature drain'd;
[illegible]'s maxims took their rise,
[illegible]ly settled hate to vice.

The daily labours of the bee
Awake my soul to industry;
Who can observe the careful ant,
And not provide for future want?
My dog (the trustiest of his kind)
With gratitude inflames my mind;
I mark his true, his faithful way,
And in my service copy Tray.

In constancy and nuptial love,
I learn my duty from the dove.
The hen, who, from the chilly air,
With pious wing protects her care;
And every fowl that flies at large,
Instructs me in a parent's charge.

From Nature, too, I take my rule,
To shun contempt and ridicule.
I never, with important air,
In conversation overbear.
Can grave and formal pass for wise,
When men the solemn owl despise?
My tongue within my lips I rein;
For who talks much must talk in vain.
We from the wordy torrent fly:
Who listens to the chatt'ring pye?
Nor would I, with felonious sleight,
By stealth invade my neighbour's right.

The great improvement of navigation is entirely owing to me. By me the distant parts of the world have been made known and are accessible to each other; the remotest nations are connected together, and all, as it were, united into one common society; by a mutual intercourse they relieve one another's wants, and all enjoy the several blessings peculiar to each. The world is indebted to me for its wealth, its splendour, and its power; and the arts and sciences are, in a great measure, obliged to me for their improvements, and their continual increase. All these blessings I am the origin of; for, by my aid it is that man is enabled to construct that valuable instrument, the MARINER'S COMPASS."

MORAL.

Let dazzling stones in splendour glare:
Utility's the gem for wear.

FABLE III.

The Butterfly and the Snail.

[From GAY.]

AS in the sunshine of the morn,
A BUTTERFLY, but newly born,
Sat proudly perking on a rose,
With pert conceit his bosom glows;
His wings, all-glorious to behold,
Bedropt with azure, jet and gold,
Wide he displays; the spangled dew
Reflects his eyes, and various hue.

His now forgotten friend, a SNAIL,
Beneath his house, with slimy trail,
Crawls o'er the grass; whom, when he spies,
In wrath he to the gard'ner cries:

"What means yon peasant's daily toil,
From choaking weeds to rid the soil?
Why wake you to the morning's care?
Why with new arts correct the year?
Why glows the peach with crimson hue?
And why the plum's inviting blue?
Were they to feast his taste design'd,
That vermin, of voracious kind?
Crush, then, the slow, the pilf'ring race;
So purge thy garden from disgrace."

"What arrogance!" the SNAIL replied;
"How insolent is upstart pride!

Hadst thou not thus, with insult vain,
Provok'd my patience to complain,
I had conceal'd thy meaner birth,
Nor trac'd thee to the scum of earth;
For scarce nine suns have wak'd the hours,
To swell the fruit, and paint the flow'rs,
Since I thy humbler life survey'd,
In base, in sordid guise array'd;
A hideous insect, vile, unclean,
You dragg'd a slow and noisome train;
And from your spider-bowels drew
Foul film, and spun the dirty clue.
I own my humble life, good friend;
Snail was I born, and Snail shall end.
And what's a Butterfly? At best,
He's but a Caterpillar, dress'd;
And all thy race (a numerous seed)
Shall prove of Caterpillar breed."

MORAL.

All upstarts, insolent in place,
Remind us of their vulgar race.

FABLE IV.

The Jackdaw and Pigeons.

[From Croxall.]

A Jackdaw, observing that the Pigeons in a certain dove-cote lived well, and wanted for nothing, white-washed his feathers like a dove, and went and lived among them. The Pigeons, not distinguishing him as long as he kept silent, forbore to give him any disturbance. But at last he forgot his character, and began to chatter; by which the Pigeons discovering what he was, flew upon him, and drove him back to the Jackdaws again. They not knowing him in his discoloured feathers, drove him away likewise; so that he, who had endeavoured to be more than he had a right to, was not permitted to be anything at all.

MORAL.

Impostors are sure to betray themselves.

FABLE V.

The Packhorse and Carrier.

[From GAY.]

A CARRIER, every night and morn,
Would see his horses eat their corn.
This sunk the hostler's vails, 'tis true;
But then his horses had their due.
Were we so cautious in all cases,
Small gain would rise from greater places.
The manger now had all its measure;
He h[illegible] inding teeth with pleasure;
W[illegible] confusion rung;
[illegible]ed, bit, and flung.

A PACKHORSE turn'd his head aside,
Foaming, his eye-balls swell'd with pride.

"Good gods!" says he, "how hard's my lot!
Is, then, my high descent forgot?
Reduc'd to drudg'ry and disgrace,
A life unworthy of my race,
Must I, too, bear the vile attacks
Of ragged scrubs, and vulgar hacks?
See scurvy Roan, that brute ill-bred,
Dares from the manger thrust my head!
Shall I, who boast a noble line,
On offals of these creatures dine?
Kick'd by old Ball! so mean a foe!
My honour suffers by the blow.
Newmarket speaks my grandsire's fame;
All jockies still revere his name:
There, yearly are his triumphs told;
There, all his massy plates enroll'd;
Whene'er led forth along the plain,
You saw him with a liv'ry train;
Returning, too, with laurels crown'd,
You heard the drums and trumpets sound:
Let it then, sir, be understood,
Respect's my due; for I have blood."

"Vain-glorious fool!" the CARRIER cried;
"Respect was never made for pride.

Go to your froggery again;
In your own element remain."
No: on the journey she was bent;
Her thirst increasing as she went,
For want of drink she scarce can hop,
And yet despairing of a drop;
The last she musters her silly pant;
She faints, she sinks, she breathes her last.

MORAL.

Vulgar minds will pay full dear,
When once they move beyond their sphere.

FABLE VII.

The Horse and the Ass.

[From CROXALL.]

THE HORSE, adorned with his great war-saddle, and champing his foaming bridle, came thundering along the way, and made the mountains echo with his loud shrill neighing. He had not gone far, before he overtook an Ass, who was labouring under a heavy burthen, and moving slowly on in the same track with himself. Immediately he called out to him, in a haughty, imperious tone, and threatened to trample him in the dirt, if he did not make way for him. The poor patient Ass, not daring to dispute the matter, quietly got out of his way, as fast as he could, and let him go by.

Not long after this, the same HORSE, in an engagement with the enemy, happened to be shot in the eye, which made him unfit for show, or any military [illegible]siness; so he was stripped of his fine ornaments, and [illegible] to a carrier.

The Ass, [illegible]eeting him in this forlorn condition, [illegible]nsult him in his misfortune; but [illegible]g, how justly that arrogance [illegible] so little consideration for the [illegible]

MORAL.

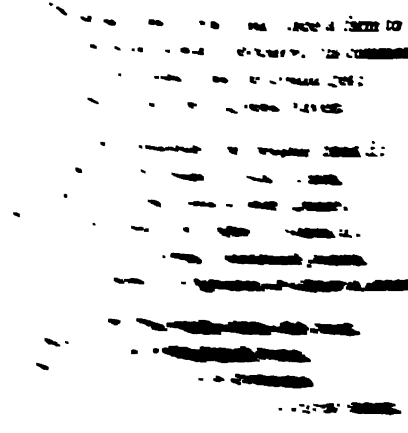
[illegible] will have a fall.

[illegible] VIII.

[illegible] the Farmer.

[illegible]

[illegible] farm to let,
[illegible] common crier,
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]



But still confin'd within his farm alone,
He makes a climate all his own;
For when he sheds, or when he pours,
Refreshing dews, or soaking show'rs,
His neighbours never share a drop;
So much the better for their crop;
Each glebe a plenteous harvest yields;
Whilst our director spoils his fields.

Next year, he tries a diff'rent way;
New moulds the seasons, and directs again;
But all in vain:
His neighbour's grounds still thrive while his decay.

What does he do in this sad plight?
For once he acted right:
He to the god his fate bemoan'd,
Ask'd pardon, and his folly own'd.
Jove, like a tender master, fond to save,
His weakness pity'd, and his fault forgave.

HORAT.

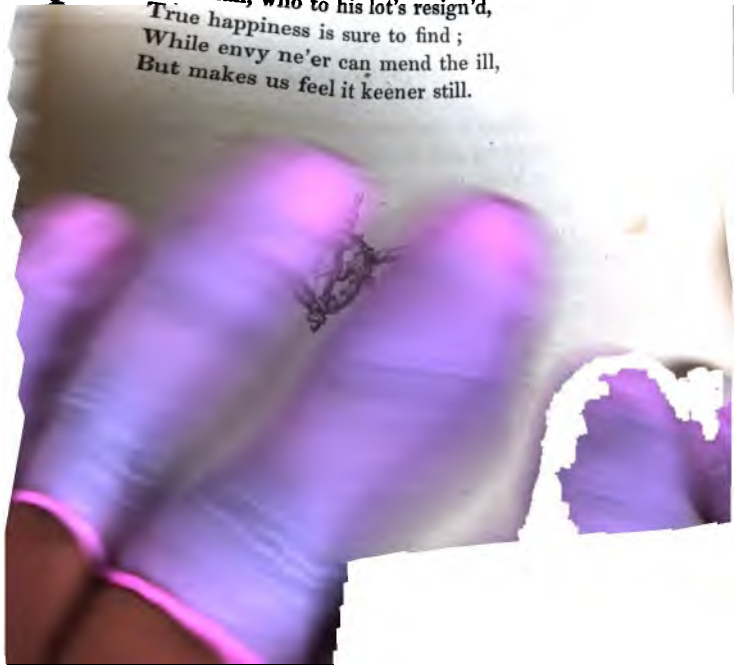
of heaven to scan,
py man:
we may rest,—
ins is best;
work his own undoing;
to cause his ruin.

"Ah!" says he, "but what avails my silent, unmeaning beauty, when I am so far excelled in voice?"

The Goddess dismissed him; bidding him consider, that the properties of every creature were appointed by a decree of fate; to him, beauty; to the Eagle, strength; to the Nightingale, a voice of melody; to the Parrot, the faculty of speech; and to the Dove, innocence. That each of these was satisfied with his own peculiar quality; and, unless he wished to be miserable, he must learn to be equally contented.

MORAL.

The man, who to his lot's resign'd,
True happiness is sure to find;
While envy ne'er can mend the ill,
But makes us feel it keener still.



Entreated, opening wide his beak,
A moment's liberty to speak;
And, silence publicly enjoin'd,
Deliver'd briefly thus his mind:

"My friends, be cautious how ye treat
The subject upon which we meet;
I fear we shall have winter yet."

A Finch, whose tongue knew no control,
With golden wing and satin poll,
A last year's bird, who ne'er had tried
What marriage means, thus pert replied:

"Methinks, the gentleman," quoth she,
"Opposite, in the apple-tree,
By his good will, would keep us single,
'Till yonder heaven and earth shall mingle;
Or (w[illegible]elier to befal,)
[illegible] us all.
[illegible];
[illegible]hat say you?"

[illegible]weedling, ogling, bridling,
[illegible] and sidling,
[illegible]west.
Of an [illegible]
Their [illegible]s so v[illegible]
[illegible]ily t[illegible]
[illegible]h pa[illegible]est.

were mailed:

FABLE XI.

The Discontented Horse.

[From the German of LESSING.]

AS JUPITER once was receiving petitions
From birds [illegible] beasts of all ranks and conditions,
With an e[illegible]ire, and [illegible]quite erect,
Which, I [illegible] say, sh[illegible] little respect,
[illegible]as ne[illegible]s [illegible]l to the throne,
his d[illegible] [illegible]iments known:
[illegible] of [illegible]ness and force,
[illegible] all [illegible] the
[illegible]rit [illegible]igure
[illegible], I'[illegible] [illegible]lieve I'

But still, mighty JUPITER, still, by your aid,
In my form might some further improvements be made.
To run is my duty, and swifter and stronger,
I surely should go were my legs to be longer:
And as man always places a seat on my back,
I should have been made with a saddle or sack;
It had sav'd *him* much trouble, on journies departing,
And *I* had been constantly ready for starting."

Great JUPITER smiled (for he laugh'd at the brute,
As he saw more of folly than vice in his suit),
And striking the earth with omnipotent force,
A Camel rose up near the terrified HORSE:
He trembled—he started—his mane shook with fright,
And he stagger'd half round, as preparing for flight.

"Behold!" exclaim'd JOVE, "there an animal stands,
With both your improvements at once to your hands:
His legs are much longer; the hump on his back
Well answers the purpose of saddle or sack:
Of your shapes, tell me, which is more finish'd and trim?
Speak out, silly HORSE, would you wish to be him?"

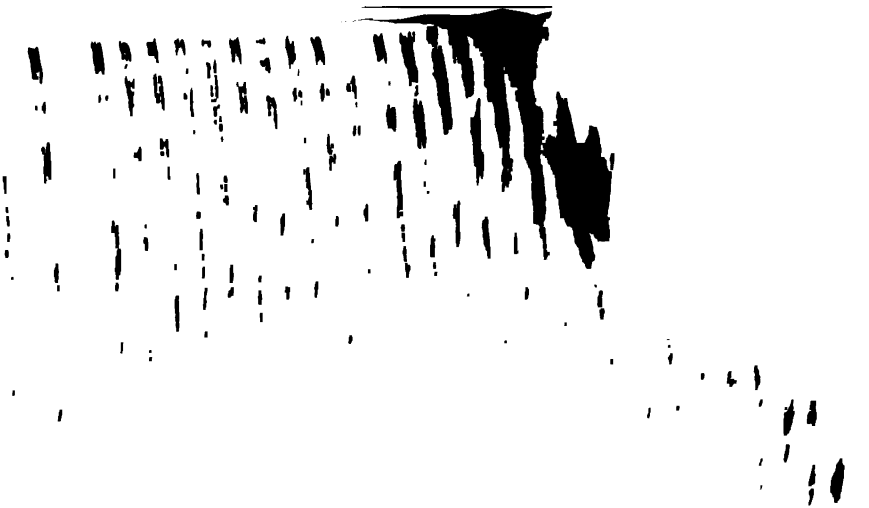
The HORSE look'd abash'd, and had nothing to say;
And JOVE, with reproaches, thus sent him away:
"Begone, till you gratefully feel and express
Your thanks for the blessings and gifts you possess.
The Camel, though plain, is mild, useful and good;
You are handsome, but proud, discontented and rude."

FABLE XII.

The Stag in the Ox-stall.

[From Croxall.]

Stag, roused out of his [illegible] covert in the midst the forest, and driven [illegible] the hounds, made words a farm-house, [illegible] an Ox-stall [illegible] under a [illegible] head [illegible] himself [illegible] to meet [illegible] but be

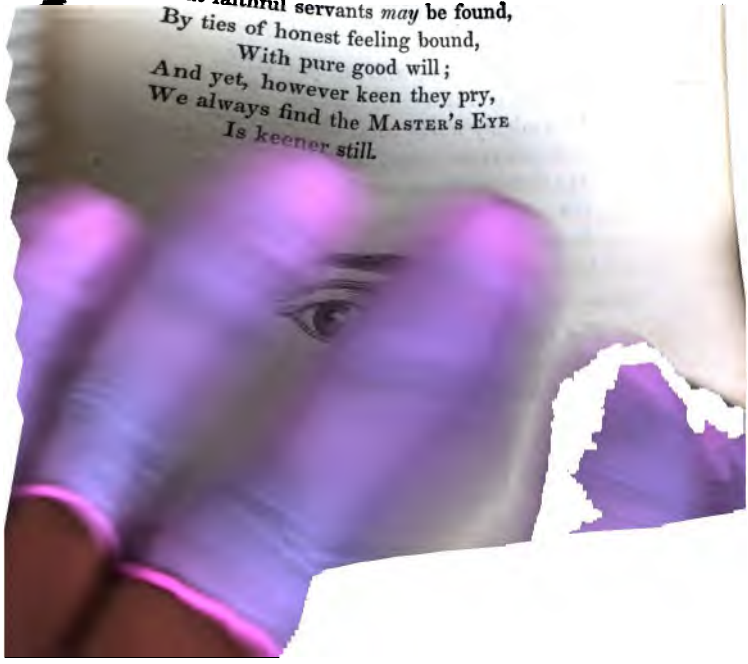


went on, prying into every thing, he chanced to look where the STAG's horns lay sticking out of the straw; upon which, he called all his people about him, killed the poor STAG, and made a prize of him.

MORAL.

The knave, whose wages are his booty,
Goes thro' the mock routine of duty,
From year to year;
The object which his mind engages
Is, "When shall I receive my wages?
Is pay-day near?"

But faithful servants *may* be found,
By ties of honest feeling bound,
With pure good will;
And yet, however keen they pry,
We always find the MASTER'S EYE
Is keener still.



[illegible] and chin,

Just where she saw him gasping lie,
She pluck'd a twig, and dropp'd it nigh.
He mounts, like sailor on an oar,
Securely perch'd, and reach'd the shore;
Then shook his limbs, and rais'd his head,
And thus to his deliverer said:

"To one unask'd, who could bestow
Such service, more than thanks I owe;
Receive, devoid of skill or art,
Th' effusions of a grateful heart:
You may partake of all I hoard,
Sure of a welcome at my board."

The gentle Dove, with smiles replies,
And meekness beaming from her eyes:
"T[illegible]hest joys on earth, we find,
S[illegible]oling mind;
[illegible]ere,
[illegible]care:
[illegible]s shewn,
[illegible]our own.
[illegible]y burns
[illegible]o retu

[illegible]nting,
[illegible]ry ring
[illegible]n shad
[illegible]nd bles

ngs,

When winter's snows deform'd the year,
And food was scarce, and frost severe,
The grateful ANT, who had with pain
Amass'd a monstrous load of grain,
And as the DOVE might want, he thought,
To find his benefactor, sought.

Long had he rov'd the forest round,
Before the gentle DOVE he found;
At distance seen, too far to hear
His voice, a sportsman much too near,
With lifted tube, and levelling eye,
The fatal lead prepar'd to fly;
The trigger just began to move,
His aim was pointed at the DOVE.

With horror struck, the ANT beheld;
By gratitude and love impell'd,
He mounts, a[illegible] clings,
With all his [illegible]
That [illegible]

FABLE XIV.

The Old Man and his Sons.

[From CROXALL.]

AN OLD MAN had many SONS, who were often quarrelling with one another. When the father had exerted his auth[illegible] [illegible]ns to reconcile them, but all [illegible] had recourse to [illegible] expedie[illegible] be called before [illegible] brought; then [illegible] all his might and [illegible] tried, but to no [illegible] and [illegible]actly [illegible]ce of [illegible]

[illegible] HIS SONS.

[illegible] the [illegible] to be untied, [illegible] his sons at the [illegible] which, when [illegible] the father addressed [illegible] behold the power [illegible] the manner, would but [illegible] the bonds of [illegible] power of any mortal [illegible] the [illegible] of brotherly [illegible] become exposed [illegible]."

[illegible]

[illegible]

FABLE XV.

The Colt and the Farmer.

[By Moore.]

A Colt, for blood and mettled speed,
The choicest of the running breed,
Of youthful strength and beauty vain,
Refus'd subjection to the rein.

In vain the groom's officious skill
Oppos'd his pride, and check'd his will;
In vain the master's forming care
Restrain'd with threats, or sooth'd with pray'r.
Of freedom proud, and scorning man,
Wild o'er the spacious plain he ran.

...uriant Nature spread
...et o'er the mead,
...eams soft-gliding pass
...eshen up the grass,
...unds, he cropp'd the blade,
...'d in th... ...il he made.

...ity thus ... ...mer pass'd,
...g winter ... ...last:
...s no more ... ... yield,
...lure with... ...he field,
... snows i... ...ground,
...hains the ... ...re bound;

After this, the father
and gave a single st
same time binding him
each did with all magi
them to this effect: "
of unity! For, if ye
keep yourselves stric
friendship, it would n
to hurt you: but w
affection are dissolved
to every injurious hand

ing hail,
assail.

ueful eyes,
cottage rise;
heart with cheer,
rance near.
n and hate.
s wish'd retreat;
s pride forgot,
ne yard he sought.

w his woful plight,
er'd with his weight,
he stable led,
d, dress'd, and fed.
night he lay;
break of day;
Along the road,
he pond'rous load;
complain

retch that I am!" he sighing said,
y arrogance, and folly led:
ad but my restive youth been brought
o learn the lesson nature taught,
hen had I, like my sires of yore,
The prize from every courser bore.
Now, lasting servitude's my lot;
My birth contemn'd, my speed forgot;
Doom'd am I, for my pride, to bear
A living death, from year to year."

MORAL.

He who disdains control, will only gain
A youth of pleasure for an age of pain.

done. "Alas! gentlemen," says he, "I passed away the time merrily and pleasantly, in drinking, singing, and dancing, and never once thought of winter." "If that be the case," replied the ANT, "all I have to say is, that they who drink, sing, and dance, in the summer, must starve in the winter."

MORAL.

Who pleasures love
Shall beggars prove.

[illegible]

[illegible]

ay'd.

is spade.

High priest of Flora you might call him;
Nor less was he the fav'rite of Pomona.
But one day, walking,
He found it dull; and should some ill befal him,
In his sweet paradise, he felt alone,—Ah!
For neither rose, nor pink, nor vine,
Except in such a lay as mine,
Are given to talking.
His head, old Time had now long years heap'd many on;
So he resolv'd to look for some companion.

On this important expedition,—
But fearing his researches would be vain,—
The sage departed:
Revolving deeply his forlorn condition,
He slowly mused along a narrow lane;
—unawares,—
was the BEAR's!
e started.
ng: he that wise is,
eat, his fear disguises.

rudenc ... Sta ... ground;
hard ... harder ... dash on."
... vails.—
Twix ... ds a sy ... s found
hich ... sight ... passion,

FABLE XVII.

The Hermit and the Bear.

[From La Fontaine.]

ONCE on a time, a mountain Bear
Liv'd in a forest drear, with no Bears near him;
Fat, fierce, and sulky.
Nor man, nor other beast, approach'd his lair;
His neighbours all despise, or hate, or fear him.
'Tis good to talk,—to hold one's tongue,—
Though either in excess be wrong:—
Our hermit bulky,
So shaggy, sullen, taciturn, and rude,
Bear as he was, grew sick of solitude.

At the same time, by chance, retir'd
Far from the world, a man advanc'd in age,
But stout and healthy.
Not with devotion's flame his heart was fir'd;
Not prayer and fasting occupied the sage;
Though on mankind he shut his door,
No vows of poverty he swore:—
The wight was wealthy.
But by some treacherous friend, or fair, betray'd,
He liv'd with plants, and commun'd with his spade.

One afternoon, as in the sun
The weary HERMIT took his usual nap,
And at his post
The faithful BEAR his daily work begun,
Giving full many a brush and gentle slap,
With a light whisp of herbs sweet-scented,
And thus the teasing flies prevented,
That buzzing host,
From fixing on his sleeping patron's visage,
Sunk in the deep repose so fit for his age.

One blue-bottle his care defied;—
No place could please him but the old man's nose,
Quite unabash'd.
The BEAR, provok'd, no means would leave untried;
At last, a vigorous, certain mode, he chose:—
Extending wide his heavy paw,
And thrusting hard each crooked claw,
The fly was smash'd:—
But his poor patron's face, so [illegible] patted,
All stream'd with blood, and [illegible] nose was flatted.

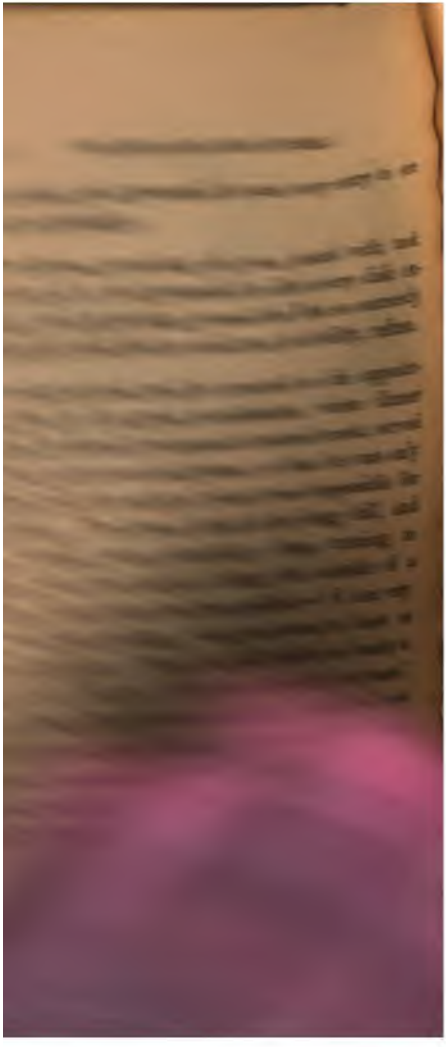
FABLE XVIII.

The Fox and the Stork.

[From Dodsley.]

THE Fox, th
than wit, had
wag with his
invited her to

eral more inclined to roguery
inclination to play the
accordingly
en it came
ed entirely
allow dishes,
of her bill,
nger. The Fox
ry n
red to
hat e



FABLE XIX.

The Shepherd's Dog and Wolf.

[From Gay.]

A Wolf, with hunger fierce and bold,
Ravag'd the plains [illegible] bin'd the fold;
Deep in the wo[illegible] lay,
The thefts of [illegible] the day
[illegible]
[illegible] ore;
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

"Let us awhile the war suspend,
And reason as from friend to friend."
"A truce!" replies the WOLF. 'Tis done.
The Dog the parley thus begun :—
"How can that strong, intrepid mind,
Attack a weak, defenceless kind?
Those jaws should prey on nobler food,
And drink the boar's and lion's blood;
Great souls with gen'rous pity melt,
Which coward tyrants never felt.
How harmless is our fleecy care!
Be brave, and let thy mercy spare."
"Friend," says the WOLF, "the matter weigh;
Nature design'd us beasts of prey;
As such, when hunger finds a treat,
'Tis necessary Wolves should eat.
If, mindful of the bleating weal,
[illegible]osom burn with real zeal,
[illegible]nd thy tyrant lord beseech;
[illegible]peat the moving speech.
[illegible]its sheep but now and then;
[illegible]unds are devour'd by men."

MORAL.

[illegible] may prove a curse,
[illegible]ded friend is worse.

FABLE XIX.

The Shepherd's Dog and Wolf.

[From Gay.]

A Wolf, with hunger fierce and bold,
Ravag'd the plains, and thinn'd the fold;
Deep in the wood secure he lay,
The thefts of night regal'd the day.
In vain the shepherd's wakeful care
Had spread the toils, and watch'd the snare;
In vain the Dog pursu'd his pace,
The fleeter robber mock'd the chase.

As Lightfoot rang'd the forest round,
By chance his foe's retreat he found:

particularly for having acted so effeminate a p
look in a glass, and meddle with things which
to women only. The father, embracing them h
much tenderness and affection, told them,
should like to have them both look in the gla
day; "To the intent that you," says he to
"if you think that face of yours handsome,
disgrace and spoil it, by an ugly temper and
behaviour; and that you," added he, address
Girl, "may make up for the defects of your
by the sweetness of your manners and the excell
your understanding."

MORAL.

A well-informed mind is better than a handsome

FABLE XXI.

The Hog and the Acorns.

[From the German of Lessing.]

ONE moonshiny night,
W a great appetite,
A I a Acorns with all his might.
  eas'd with his prize,
  taste and in size,
  evoured the rest with his eyes.

  now, I'm in joke,
  I say that the oak,
  to the grunter before she spoke.

[illegible]

[illegible]

He replied, [illegible]
Though [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] acknowledge [illegible]
My [illegible]
If from [illegible] kindness my support you drew.

[illegible] good fame.
[illegible] children the same.
[illegible] justice, may gratitude claim."

[illegible] no service conveys.

FABLE XXII.

The Dog and Shadow.

[From CROXALL.]

. crossing a little rivulet, with a piece of flesh
outh, saw his own shadow represented in the
rror of the limpid stream; and believing it to
ther D[illegible]s carrying another piece of
e coul[illegible]atching at it; but was so
n getti[illegible] his greedy design, that he
d the [illegible] his mouth, which imme-
sunk [illegible]d was irrecoverably lost.

L.

[illegible]nt of greediness to lose the
nce [illegible]e shadow.

"Good gods! how abject is our race!
Condemn'd to slav'ry and disgrace!
Shall we our servitude retain,
Because our sires have borne the chain?
Consider, friends, your strength and might;
'Tis conquest to assert your right.
How cumb'rous is the gilded coach!
The pride of man is our reproach.
Were we design'd for daily toil,
To drag the ploughshare through the soil;
To sweat in harness through the road;
To groan beneath the carrier's load?
How feeble are the two-legg'd kind!
What force is in our nerves combin'd!
Shall, then, our nobler jaws submit
To foam and champ the galling bit?
...ighty man my back bestride?
...voke my side?
...t the rein;
...ae, ...y disdain.
...ontrol,
...mish'd growl!
...freedom ...laim;
...e at ou... ."
...prov'd t... e,
...igh'd ... ;
...e and ... ...ce,
...efore th...

FABLE XXIII.

The Council of Horses.

[From GAY.]

UPON a time, a neighing Steed,
Who graz'd among a num'rous breed,
With mutiny had fir'd the train,
And spread dissension through the plain.
On matters that concern'd the state
The council met in grand debate.
A Colt, whose eye-balls flam'd with ire,
Elate with strength and youthful fire,
In haste stepp'd forth before the rest,
And thus the list'ning throng address'd:

"Good gods! how abject is our race!
Condemn'd to slav'ry and disgrace!
Shall we our servitude retain,
Because our sires have borne the chain?
Consider, friends, your strength and might;
'Tis conquest to assert your right.
How cumb'rous is the gilded coach!
The pride of man is our reproach.
Were we design'd for daily toil,
To drag the ploughshare through the soil;
To sweat in harness through the road;
To groan beneath the carrier's load?
How feeble are the two-legg'd kind!
What force is in our nerves combin'd!
Shall, then, our nobler jaws submit
To foam and champ the galling bit?
Shall haughty man my back bestride?
Shall the sharp spur provoke my side?
Forbid it, heav'ns! reject the rein;
Your shame, your infamy disdain.
Let him the Lion first control,
And still the Tiger's famish'd growl!
Let us, like them, our freedom claim;
And make him tremble at our name."
A general nod approv'd the cause,
And all the circle neigh'd applause;
When, lo! with grave and solemn pace,
A Steed advanc'd before the race,

With age and long experience wise;
Around he casts his thoughtful eyes,
And, to the murmurs of the train,
Thus spoke the Nestor of the plain:
"When I had health and strength, like you,
The toils of servitude I knew.
Now, grateful man rewards my pains,
And gives me all these wide domains.
At will I crop the year's increase;
My latter life is rest and peace.
I grant, to man we lend our pains,
And aid him to correct the plains.
But doth not he divide the care,
Through all the labours of the year?
How many thousand structures rise,
To fence us from inclement skies!
For us he bears the sultry day,
And stores up all our winter's hay.
He sows, he reaps the harvest's gain;
We share the toil, and share the grain."
The tumult ceas'd. The Colt submitted;
And, like his ancestors, was bitted.

MORAL.

Since every creature is decreed
To aid each other's mutual need;
Submit with a contented mind,
To act the part by heaven assign'd

FABLE XXIV.

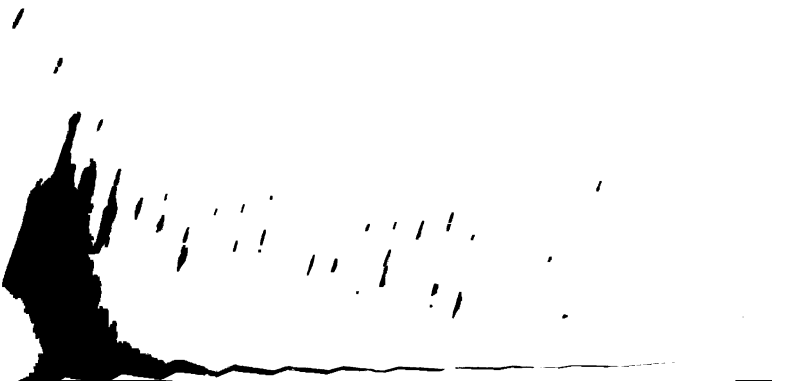
The Redbreast and the Sparrow.

[From Dodsley.]

As a Redbreast was singing on a tree, by the side of a rural cottage, a Sparrow, perched upon the thatch, took occasion thus to reprimand him: "And dost thou," said he, "with thy dull autumnal note, presume to emulate the birds of spring? Can thy weak warblings pretend to vie with the sprightly accents of the Thrush and the Blackbird? With the various melody of the Lark and the Nightingale? whom other birds, far thy superiors, have been long content to admire in silence." "Judge with candour, at least," replied the Robin; "nor impute those efforts to ambition solely, which may sometimes flow from love of the art. I reverence, indeed, but by no means envy, the birds whose fame has stood the test of ages. Their songs have charmed both hill and dale; but their season is past, and their throats are silent. I feel not, however, the ambition to surpass or equal them: my efforts are of a much humbler nature; and I may surely hope for pardon, while I endeavour to cheer these forsaken valleys, by an attempt to imitate the strains I love."

MORAL.

Imitation may be pardonable, where rivalry would be presumptuous.



Our courtier scarce could touch a bit,
But show'd his breeding and his wit;
He did his best to seem to eat,
And cried "I vow, you're mighty neat!
But, lord, my friend, this savage scene!—
For mercy's sake, come, live with men:
Consider, mice, like men, must die,
Both small and great; both you and I:
Then spend your life in joy and sport;
(This doctrine, friend, I learn'd at court.)"

The veriest hermit in the nation
May yield, we know, to strong temptation.
Away they came, through thick and thin,
To a tall house near Lincoln's Inn.
('Twas on the night of a debate,
When all their lordships had sat late.)
Behold the place, where, if a poet
Shin'd in description, he might shew it;
Tell how the moon-beam trembling falls,
And tipt with silver all the walls;
Palladian walls, Venetian doors,
Grotesco roofs, and stucco floors:
But let it (in a word) be said,
The moon was up, and men a-bed;
The napkins white, the carpet red;
The guests withdrawn, had left the treat,
And down the mice sat "*tête-a-tête.*"

Our courtier walks from dish to dish,
Tastes, for his friend, of fowl and fish;
Tells all their names; lays down the law:
Que ça est bon! Ah! gôutez ça!
That jelly's rich, this malmsey's healing;
Pray, dip your whiskers and your tail in.
Was ever such a happy swain!
He stuffs and swills, and stuffs again.
"I'm quite asham'd—'tis mighty rude
To eat so much,—but all's so good.
I have a thousand thanks to give—
My lord alone knows how to live!"
No sooner said, but, from the hall,
Rush chaplain, butler, dogs and all:
"A Rat, a Rat! clap to the door;"—
The Cat comes bouncing on the floor.
O, for the heart of Homer's mice,
Or gods, to save them in a trice!
(It was by Providence, they think,
For stucco seldom has a chink.)
"An't please your honour," quoth the peasant,
"This same dessert is not so pleasant;
Give me again my hollow tree,
A crust of bread, and liberty!"

MORAL.

Poverty and safety are preferable to luxury and danger.

FABLE XXVI.

The Fox and the Crow.

[From CROXALL.]

A CROW, having stolen a piece of cheese from a cottage-window, flew up into a high tree with it, in order to eat it; which the FOX observing, came and sat underneath, and began to compliment the CROW upon the subject of her beauty. "I protest," says he, "I never observed it before, but your feathers are of a more delicate white than any that ever I saw in my life! Ah! what a fine shape and graceful turn of body is there!—and I dare say you have a beautiful voice. If it be but as fine as your com-

FABLE XXVII.

The Warrior Wolf.

[From the German of LESSING.]

A YOUNG WOLF said aloud,
To the listening crowd,
" I may well of my father's great courage be proud;
Wherever he came,
Flock, shepherd, or dame,
All trembled and fled at the sound of his name.
Did any one spy
My papa coming by,—
Two hundred or more,—Oh! he made them all fly!

[illegible]

FABLE XXVIII.

The Barley-Mow and the Dunghill.

[From GAY.]

AS cross his yard, at early day,
A careful farmer took his way,
He stopp'd, and leaning on his fork,
Observ'd the flail's incessant work.
In thought he measur'd all his store;
His geese, his hogs, he number'd o'er;
In fancy weigh'd the fleeces shorn,
And multiplied the next year's corn.

A BARLEY-MOW, which stood beside,
Thus to its musing master cried:

But other tongues proclaim, ere long,
Our good man's plan, as usual, wrong.
"See, how on foot that stripling trudges,
This churl the least indulgence grudges:
Expire with toil he'd see him rather—
He cannot be the poor child's father!"
"'Tis hard to please the world, I find,"
The father cries; "Boy, mount behind."
Ned, under double pressure straining,
In his harsh language vents his 'plaining;
Whilst more attendants on the fair,
Gaze at the Ass and luckless pair;
And utter warm disapprobation,
In still more loud vociferation:
"Does it not much," cries one, "amaze ye,
To see two heavy louts so lazy?
Never, since first I us'd this road, did
I see poor beast so sadly loaded:
To carry him they're m[illegible] able;
Such cruelty is [illegible]
"[illegible]
"Well," says the [illegible]
To [illegible]
[illegible]
cries

And social chatting, side by side,
They walk'd, for neither chose to ride.

Between the town and their abode,
Some damsels passed them on the road:
Greeks of each sex, a prating tribe,
On all occasions prone to gibe.
"Look there!" exclaim'd the tittering lasses;
"D'ye see that trio rare of asses?
Friends, do you like, in all this heat,
To use those hoofs you call your feet;
When both, or, surely, one, at least,
Might ride that sturdy, long-ear'd beast?"

Vex'd that the girls an ass should count hi
The man now bade his youngster mount him.
When scarce a mile was gone, they met
Of codgers grave a solemn set;
This new position moves their bile;
Thus they the passive youth revile:
"Is't not enough to rouse one's rage,
To see no honour paid to age?
Can yon stout lad that beast bestride,
Nor let his ancient father ride?
Must greybeards walk?—Unfeeling clown!
For shame, you graceless boy, get down!"
Displeas'd, such causeless blame to meet,
The senior takes the young man's seat.

FABLE XXX.

The Dog and the Wolf.

[From CROXALL.]

A LEAN, hungry, hall[illegible]r, happened, one moon-shiny night, to [illegible], well-fed Mastiff; and, after [illegible]e passed, says [illegible] protest, I [illegible]y person; that you [illegible]y, without [illegible]an you do, [illegible]nger." The [illegible] may live

says he

Tha

woods, where

will be

therefore

know me."

together, the Wolf

and, having a

asking him what

the Dog. "Nay,

Why, says the Dog

in the day-time,

I should bite

But this is less

always, more than any

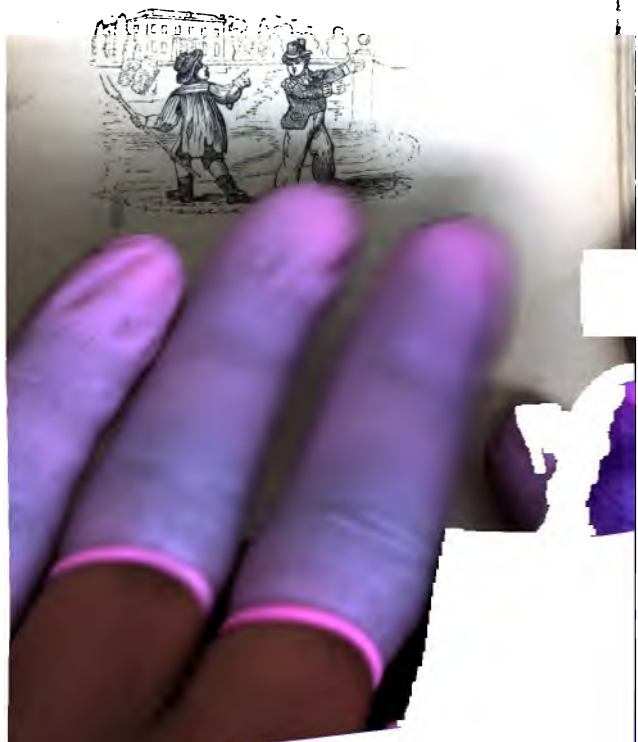
the better in the

the twilight appears,

eg your pardon: keep your happiness all to yourself. *iberty* is the word with me; and I would not be a *sing*, upon the terms you mention."

MORAL.

The man that's noble, just, and brave,
Will never live a pamper'd slave;
A peasant poor he'd rather be,
With homely fare and liberty.



The mole-hills, to his untaught eyes,
Assum'd the mountains' height and size.
"Amazing!"—he proceeded thus:—
"I see the Alps and Caucasus!
And that (a stream he saw in motion)
Is, surely, the Atlantic Ocean!"

At length, proceeding to the shore,
Where fishermen had been before,
Some scatter'd Oysters there remain'd,
Of the large portion they had gain'd.
Among them one (as oft we view),
With shell uprais'd an inch or two,
Lay as in quiet, soft delight,
Exposing skin of healthy white;
So plump and tempting did it lie,
It caught the RAT's exploring eye.
"What do I see?" he cried; "a treat!
This must be most delightful [illegible];
At any rate, this day I dine
[illegible]tter than any friend of [illegible]
I have been looking for [illegible]
L[illegible]ucky [illegible]nd it [illegible]
Then [illegible]
H[illegible]

FABLE XXXII.

The Cur, the Horse, and the Shepherd's Dog.

[From GAY.]

A VILLAGE *Cur*, of snappish race,
The pertest *puppy* in the place,
Imagin'd that his treble
Was bless'd with
In

FABLE XXXIII.

The Frogs who desired a King.

[From Croxall.]

THE common wealth of Frogs, a discontented, variable race, weary of *liberty*, and fond of change, petitioned Jupiter to grant them a king.

The good-natured deity, in order to indulge their request with as little misch[illegible] petitioners as possible, threw [illegible] At fi[illegible] regarded th[illegible] kept fr[illegible] perce[illegible] him [illegible] the de[illegible] wed [illegible]

their request to Jupiter, and entreated him to bestow them another king. The Thunderer, in his wrath, sent them a crane: who no sooner took possession of his new dominions, than he began to devour his subjects, one after another, in a most capricious and tyrannical manner.

They were now far more dissatisfied than before; when, applying to Jupiter a third time, they were answered with this reproof: that the evil they complained of they had imprudently brought upon themselves; and that they had no other remedy now but to submit to it with patience.

MORAL.

Be content: or you may change from bad to worse.

FABLE XXXIV.

The Countryman and Jupiter.

[From GAY.]

O'ERSPENT with toil, beneath the shade,
A PEASANT rested on a s[illegible]

"Good gods!" he [illegible]
This loa[illegible]
Soo[illegible]

"May Jove," he cries, "reject my pray'r,
And guard my life from guilt and care!
My soul abhors that wretch's fate,
Oh! keep me in my humble state!
But, see, amidst a gaudy crowd,
Yon minister, so gay and proud:
On him what happiness attends,
Who thus rewards his grateful friends!"

"First take the glass," the god replies:
"Man views the world with partial eyes."

"Good gods!" exclaims the startled wight;
"Defend me from this hideous sight!
Corruption, with corrosive smart,
Lies cank'ring on his guilty heart:
I see him, with polluted hand,
Spread the contagion o'er the land.
Now av'rice, with insatiate jaws;
Now rapine, with her harpy claw
His bosom tears. His conscio
Groans, with a lo[illegible] of crim
I see him, m[illegible]
Stand tott[illegible]
Sometim[illegible]
His l[illegible]
Now
H[illegible]

"Was ever wretch like this!" he cries;
"Such misery in such disguise!
The change, O Jove, I disavow;
Still be my lot the spade and plough."

He next, confirm'd by speculation,
Reflects the lawyer's occupation:
For he the statesman seem'd, in part,
And bore similitude of heart.
Nor did the soldier's trade inflame
His hopes with thirst of spoil and fame;
The miseries of war he mourn'd;
Whole nations into deserts turn'd.
"Such change," says he, "may I decline:
The scythe, and civil arms be mine."
Thus, weighing life in each condition,
The clown withdrew his rash petition.

When thus the god: "How [illegible]
If you true happiness prefer,
'Tis to no rank of life confin[illegible]
But dwells in ev'ry hon[illegible]
Be justice, then, [illegible]
Plant virtue, and [illegible]

We never sho[illegible]
Presume to

FABLE XXXV.

The Wind, the Sun, and the Traveller.

[From Croxall.]

A Dispute once arose betw[illegible] the North-Wind and the Sun, about the superi[illegible] power; and they agreed to try their str[illegible] [illegible]avellers, which should be [illegible]

The [illegible] cold [illegible] But [illegible] [illegible]aking [illegible] about [illegible] Sun; [illegible], drove

[illegible] AND THE TRAVELLER.

[illegible] the sky, and darted his [illegible] of the poor weather-beaten [illegible] growing faint with the heat, [illegible] longer, first throws off his [illegible] protection, to the shade [illegible]

[illegible]ORAL.

[illegible] will often accomplish what [illegible] never effect.

FABLE XXXVI.

The Turkey and the Ant.

[From Gay.]

A Turkey, tir'd of comm
Forsook the barn, and
Behind her ran her in
Collecti nd
"D

How bless'd, how envied were our life,
Could we but 'scape the poult'rer's knife!
But man, curs'd man, on Turkeys preys,
And Christmas shortens all our days:
Sometimes with oysters we combine,
Sometimes assist the sav'ry chine:
From the low peasant to the lord,
The Turkey smokes on ev'ry board:
Sure, men for gluttony are curs'd,
Of the sev'n deadly sins the worst."

An Ant, who climb'd beyond her reach,
Thus answer'd from the neighb'ring beech:
"Ere you remark another's sin,
Bid thy own conscience look within:
Control thy more voracious bill,
Nor, for a breakfast, nations kill."

MORAL.

FABLE XXXVII.

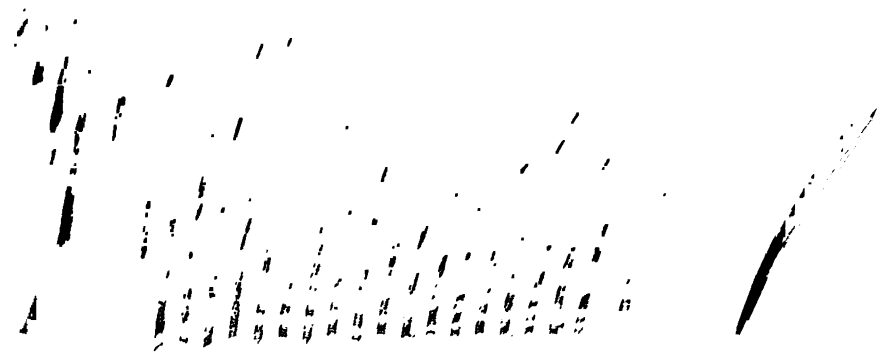
The Sensitive-Plant and the Palm-Tree.

[From Dodsley.]

THE Sensitive-Plant, being brought out of the greenhouse, on a fine summer's day, and placed in a beautiful grove, adorned with the finest forest-trees, and the most curious plants, began to give himself great airs, and to treat all that were about him with much petulance and disdain.

"Lord!" says he, "how could the Gardener think of setting me among a parcel of trees! gross, inanimate things; mere vegetables, and perfect stocks! Sure, he does not take *me* for a common plant, when he knows, that I have the sense of feeling in a more exquisite degree than he has himself: it really shocks me to see into what wretched low company he has introduced me. It is more than the delicacy of my constitution, and the extreme tenderness of my nerves, can bear. Pray, Mrs. Acacia, stand a little farther off, and do not presume quite so much upon your idle pretence of being my cousin. Good Mr. Citron, keep your distance, I beseech you; your strong scent quite overpowers me. Friend Palm-Tree, your offensive shade is really more than I am able to support."

The lofty Palm-Tree, as he was shooting up his head with the more vigour under the weight that



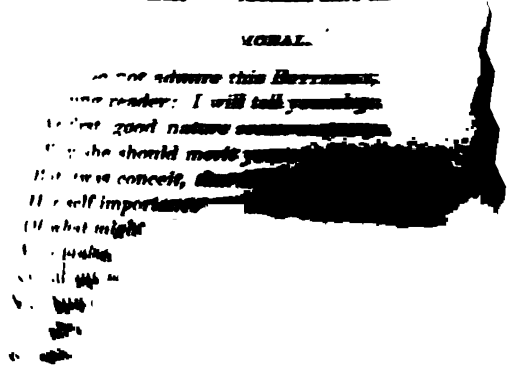
...d, did I say?—I there was wrong;
... starved upon his leathern thong;
...cept a mouldy crust or two,
...hich, at the window, children threw,
...st high enough for him to see,
...d sometimes catch one out of three.

One morning, while his master slept,
Poor Bruin down stairs softly crept;
His gnaw'd and nibbled leathern chain,
By little tugging, broke in twain;)
Hunger, I fancy, taught him cunning;
And dancing lessons taught him running.

The wood that gave him birth was near;
But, ah!—what voice salutes his ear?
No friendly voice:—it was his master,—
Which only made him run the faster;
And, surely, it will do you good
To hear he gain'd his na... ...od.

His brother and h...
Their daughters, ...
...

MORAL.

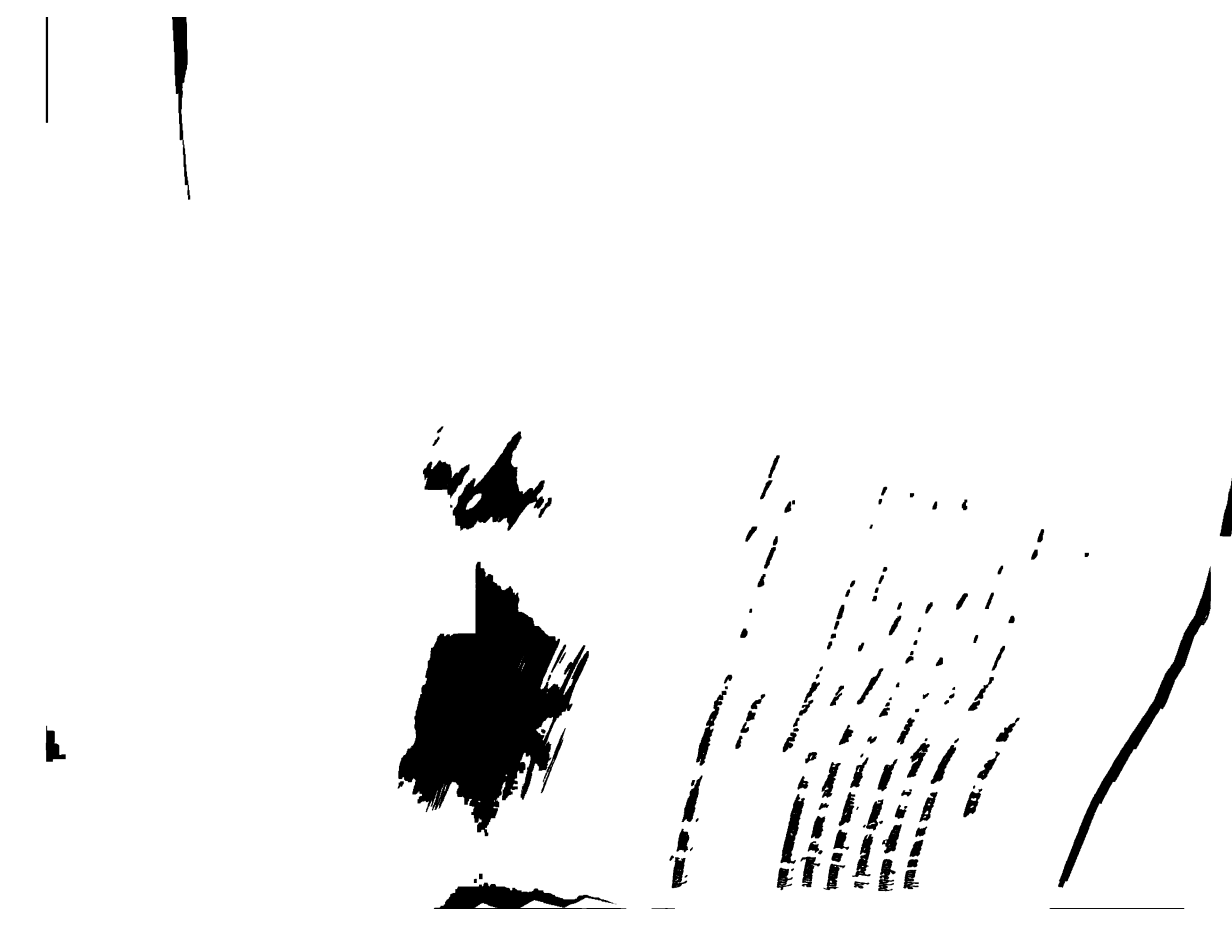


FABLE XXXIX.

The Husbandman and the Stork.

[From Croxall.]

The Husbandman pitched a net in his fields to take the Cranes and Geese which came to feed upon the new-sown corn, and caught several, both Cranes and Geese. Among them was a Stork, who pleaded hard for his life; and among other apologies which he made, alleged, that he was neither Goose nor Crane, but a poor harmless Stork. "That may be true," replies the Husbandman; "but, as I have taken you in bad company, and in the same crime, you must expect to suffer the same punishment."



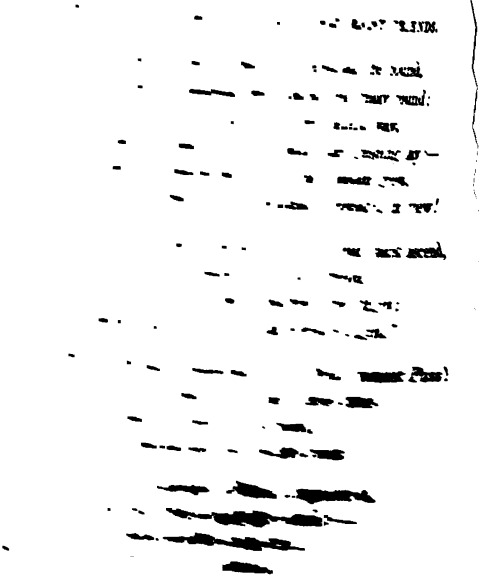
FABLE XLII.

The Hare and many Friends.

[From GAY.]

A HARE, who, in a civil way,
Complied with [illegible], like GAY,
Was known [illegible]

[illegible]lies.
[illegible]eath;
[illegible];



FABLE XLI.

The Two Bees.

[From Dodsley.]

On a fine morning in May, two Bees set forward in quest of honey; the one, wise and temperate; the other, careless and extravagant. They soon arrived at a garden enriched with aromatic herbs, the most fragrant flowers, and the most delicious fruits. They regaled themselves for a time on the various dainties that were set before them: the one loading his thigh at intervals with provisions for the hive against the distant winter; the other revelling in sweets, without regard to any thing but his present gratification.

At length, they found a wide-mouthed vial, that hung beneath the bough of a peach-tree, filled with honey ready tempered, and exposed to their taste in the most alluring manner. The thoughtless Epicure, spite of all his friend's remonstrances, plunged headlong into the vessel, resolving to indulge himself in all the pleasures of sensuality. The Philosopher, on the other hand, sipped a little with caution, but being suspicious of danger, flew off to fruits and flowers; where, by the moderation of his meals, he improved his relish for the true enjoyment of them.

In the evening, however, he called upon his friend, to inquire whether he would return to the hive; but

[illegible] XLIII.

[illegible] and his Sons.

[illegible]

[illegible] at the point of death, [illegible] should pursue that in- [illegible] of agriculture, in which [illegible] all his life, made use of this [illegible] He called them to his [illegible] — "All the patrimony [illegible] Sons, is my farm and [illegible] joint-heirs. But I [illegible] your own occupation: [illegible] it lies buried some- [illegible] of the surface."

[illegible] fat! [illegible]

FABLE XLIV.

The Cur and Mastiff.

[GAY.]

A Sn[illegible] spy,

[illegible]ce,

[illegible];

[illegible]iff chid,

[illegible]bid;

[illegible]w shy,

[illegible]n why.

FABLE XLV.

The Butterfly, the Snail, and the Bee.

A BUTTERFLY, proudly perched on the gaudy leaves of a French Marigold, was boasting the vast extent and variety of his travels. "I have ranged," said he, "over the graceful and majestic scenes of nature, and have feasted my eyes with elegance and variety. I have wandered through regions of eglantine and honeysuckle; I have revelled in kisses, on beds of violets and cowslips; and have enjoyed the delicious fragrance of roses and carnations: in short, I have visited, with perfect freedom, all the flowers of the field or garden; and must be allowed to know the world, in a superlative degree."

A[redacted] hung, attentive to his wonders, on a ca[redacted] ruck with admiration, and concluded hi[redacted] st of animal creatures. It happened, th[redacted] ed her occupation on a neighbouring [redacted]; and, having heard our ostentatious [redacted] anded him in this manner:—"Vain, [redacted]" said [redacted] hom instruction cannot [redacted] experi[redacted] nlighten!—Thou hast [redacted] the wo[redacted] n does thy knowledge [redacted] Thou[redacted] ety of objects;—what [redacted] ast th[redacted] them? Thou hast [redacted] ery an[redacted] t thou extracted any

A plan to rob the house was laid:
The thief, with love, seduc'd the maid;
Cajol'd the CUR, and strok'd his head,
And bought his secresy with bread.
He, next, the MASTIFF's honour tried,
Whose honest jaws the bribe defied.
He stretch'd his hand to proffer more,
The surly dog his fingers tore.
Swift ran the CUR; with indignation,
The master took his information:
"Hang him, the villain's curst!" he cries;
And round his neck the halter ties.
The Dog his humble suit preferr'd,
And begg'd, in justice, to be heard.
The master sat; on either hand
The cited dogs confronting stand;
The CUR, the bloody tale relates,
And, like a lawyer, aggravates.
"Judge not unheard," the MASTIFF cried,
"But weigh the cause of either side:
Think not, that treach'ry can be just;
Take not informers' words on trust;
They ope their hands to ev'ry pay,
And you and me, by turns, betray."
His tale he told; the truth appear'd;
The CUR was hang'd, the MASTIFF clear'd.

MORAL.

Liars are sure to be detected.

FABLE XLVI.

The Mouse and the Elephant.

[From the Italian of PIGNOTTI.]

A pert young MOUSE, but just arriv'd
From Athens, where some time he'd liv'd;
And daily to the portico,
To pick up learning, used to go;
Vain of the wisdom he had stor'd,
And of the books he had devour'd;
Puff'd up with pride, and self-conceit,
And proud to shew his little wit,
Thus to an ELEPHANT, one day,
He took it in his head to say:—

"Nay, no ... ous in your gait,
... made you great;
Because D... hty
I tell yo...
Is of n...

FABLE XLVII.

The Two Foxes.

[From Dodsley.]

Two Foxes formed a stratagem to enter a hen-roost; which, having successfully executed, and killed the cock, the hens, and the chickens, they began to feed upon them with singular satisfaction. One of the Foxes, who was young and inconsiderate, was for devouring them all upon the spot; the other, who was old and covetous, proposed to reserve some of them for another time. "For experience, child," said he, "has made me wise; and I have seen many unexpected events since I came into the world. Let us provide, therefore, against what may happen, and not consume all our store at one meal."

"All this is wondrous wise," [illegible] the young Fox; "but, for [illegible] not [illegible], till I ha[illegible] as much as will serve [illegible] week: for who would be mad enough to [illegible] when it is certain the [illegible] these fo[illegible] for [illegible] and, if he sh[illegible] death!" [illegible]

Aft[illegible] scher[illegible] had [illegible]

The old one, who thought it much better to deny his appetite for the present, and lay up provision for the future, returned the next day, and was killed by the Farmer

MORAL.

The sins of youth and age (how hard to cure!)
An equal share of punishment ensure.

FABLE XLVII.

The Two Foxes.

[From Dodsley.]

TWO Foxes formed a stratagem to enter a hen-roost; which, having successfully executed, and killed the cock, the hens, and the chickens, they began to feed upon them with singular satisfaction. One of the Foxes, who was young and inconsiderate, was for devouring them all upon the spot; the other, who was old and covetous, proposed to reserve some of them for another time. "For experience, child," said he, "has made me wise; and I have seen many unexpected events since I came into the world. Let us provide, therefore, against what may happen, and not consume all our store at one meal."

"All this is wondrous wise," replied the young Fox; "but, for my part, I am resolved not to stir, till I have eaten as much as will serve me a whole week: for who would be mad enough to return hither, when it is certain the owner of these fowls will watch for us? and, if he should catch us, would certainly put us to death!"

After this short discourse, each pursued his own scheme: the young Fox eat till he burst himself, and had scarcely strength to reach his hole, before he died.

FABLE XLIX.

The Sportsman and the Spaniel.

[From DODSLEY.]

S a SPORTSMAN ranged the fields with his gun,
ended by an experienced old SPANIEL, he happened
spring a Snipe, and, almost at the same instant, a
vey of Partridges. Surprised at the accident, and
vided in his aim, he let fly too hastily, and thus
issed them both. "Ah, my good master!" said the
PANIEL, "you should never have two aims at once.
Had you not been dazzled and seduced by the flattering
ope of the Partridge, you would, most probably, have
ecured the Snipe."

MORAL.

They who aim at too much, deserve (silly fools!)
The fate of the boy who would sit on two stools.

FABLE LI.

The Ambitious Goose.

[From the

The Old Swallow and the Young Birds.

[From Dodsley.]

A Swallow, observing a husbandman employed in sowing hemp, called the little Birds together, and informed them what the farmer was about. He told them that hemp was the material from which the nets, so fatal to the feathered race, were composed; and advised them unanimously to join in picking it up, in order to prevent the consequences.

The Birds, either disbelieving his information, or neglecting his advice, gave themselves no trouble about the matter. In a little time, the hemp appeared above the ground: the friendly Swallow again addressed himself to them,—to[illegible] it was not yet too late, provided they wo[illegible]ely set about the work, before the see[illegible] too [illegible]t. But the[illegible] socie[illegible] ejecting [illegible] for [illegible] on, [illegible] ets, [illegible] to [illegible] IRDS [illegible] tch [illegible] e [illegible]

FABLE LIII.

The Nightingale and the Goldfinch.

[From the German of GELLERT.]

"COME, dear papa," cried Theodore,
"Come listen to this charming bird:—
Sing, little warbler, sing once more
The sweetest notes I ever heard.

And now, another bird I hear;
But not of music such a treat;
His note, though pleasing to my ear,
Is not so strong, nor half so sweet."

A lesson for his child in view,
Of much more worth than song or tale,
The father brought, in cages two,
The GOLDFINCH and the NIGHTINGALE.

FABLE LIV.

The Fox who had lost his Tail.

(From Croxall.)

A Fox, having been [illegible] himself, at length, [illegible]

express upon our account: but, pray, turn about before the company; for I cannot, for my life, help suspecting, that you would not be quite so solicitous to ease us of our tails, if you had not unluckily lost your own."

MORAL.

The knave, who falls into disgrace,
And scarcely dares to shew his face,
To make his neighbours share his shame,
Would fain persuade them to the same.

The Palm, [illegible] al [illegible]
Of [illegible] and of [illegible]
In [illegible] great [illegible] al [illegible]—
[illegible] and [illegible]

The Fir, the Maple, and the Pine,
By strength of form protected,
Look'd down, with scorn, upon the Vine,
Weak, helpless, and dejected.

"Alas! I own my feebleness;
No friend," she cried, "is near me;
Oh! who will pity my distress?
Ah! naught have I to cheer me.

No branch, no blossom, fruit or stem,
Like other trees possessing;
I sigh when I compare with them,—
Now, is it not distressing!

But, hold! I will not
Submission has be
And though negle
Yet patience

On cheer
I k
But

The Farmer saw the drooping VINE,
And set it near his bower;
Supported there, it grew, to shine
In beauty, worth, and power.

A clust'ring store (delicious wealth!)
Its leaves were soon displaying;
With comfort, cheerfulness, and health,
The Farmer's care repaying.

For the rich treasure of the VINE
Enlivens ev'ry station
With its rich fruit and cheering wine;
Both good, in moderation.

And now the Farmer daily sees
His charity rewarded;
The VINE's reward for patient hope,
I have above recorded.

MORAL.

Patience and resignation are sure to meet their reward.

and,
which
to the
loss of
ntably.
l being
to the
l the
He
ed a

His carcass than a weasel thinner,
Made him for ev'ry prize alert;
He thought, though fortune brought no dinner,
'Twas best secure a good dessert.

A tantalizing branch to gain,
With many a spring, and many a bound,
He strove; and finding all in vain,
With this remark he quits the ground:

"Let those who like such trash, devour;—
I'll range elsewhere for better prog;
These worthless GRAPES, so green and sour,
Are scarcely fit to feed a hog!"

FABLE LVIII.

Mercury and the Woodman.

[From Croxall.]

Man was felling a tree on the bank of a river, and,
hance, let his hatchet slip out of his hand, which
ed i[illegible]he water, and immediate[illegible]
refore, in great dist
emoan[illegible]
u[illegible]el[illegible]

The Mice and the Trap.

[From the Dutch.]

ONCE upon a time, the MICE saw a broiled rasher of bacon, hanging up in a very little room, the door of which being open, enticed them to fall on with greedy appetites. But some of them took particular notice, that there was but one way into the room, and, by consequence, but one way to get out of it; so that, if that door, by misfortune or art, should chance to be shut, they would all be inevitably taken: they could not, therefore, find in their hearts to venture in; but said, [illegible] content themselves with homely [illegible] for the sake of a dainty bit, to [illegible] taken, and lost for ever.

[illegible] who were looked upon to be great [illegible] they saw no danger; and, there- [illegible] fell to eating the bacon [illegible] heard the door fall [illegible] taken. Then the [illegible]ved them, that they [illegible] food; and set the TRAP, and [illegible] who had contented them- [illegible]l into their holes, and, [illegible] lives.

FABLE LIX.

The Cookmaid, the Turnspit and the Ox.

[From GAY.]

WITH all the fury of a cook,
Her cooler kitchen NAN forsook;
The broomstick o'er her head she waves;
She sweats, she stamps, she puffs, she raves.
"The dinner must be dish'd at one;
Where's this vexatious TURNSPIT gone?
Unless the skulking Cur is caught,
The surloin's spoil'd, and I'm in fault."
The sneaking Cur before her flies;
She whistles, calls,—fair speech she tries;

?ABLE LXII.

Hen and Young Cock.

[From GAY.]

EN led forth her train,
› peck, to shew the grain;
chaff, she scratch'd the ground,
ıe spacious yard around.
, to try her wings,
ıarrow margin springs,
drops. The mother's breast
›rrow was possess'd.

iet—her son, she knew;
t affection grew.

"My son," says she, "I grant, your years
Have reach'd beyond a mother's cares;
I see you vig'rous, strong, and bold;
I hear, with joy, your triumphs told.
'Tis not from Cocks thy fate I dread;
But let thy ever-wary tread
Avoid yon well; that fatal place
Is sure perdition to our race.
Print this, my counsel, on thy breast;
To the just gods I leave the rest."

He thank'd her care; yet, day by day,
His bosom burn'd to disobey;
And ev'ry time the well he saw,
Scorn'd, in his heart, the foolish law;
Near and more near, each day he drew,
And long'd to try the dang'rous view.

"Why was this idle charge?" he cries;
"Let courage female fears despise!
Or, did she doubt my heart was brave,
And, therefore, this injunction gave?
Or, does her harvest store the place,
A treasure for her younger race?
And would she thus my search prevent?—
I stand resolv'd, and dare th' event."

Thus said, he mounts the margin's round,
And [illegible] the depth profound.

FABLE LXI.

Wine and Water.

[From the Polish Fables of KRASICKI.]

A PARTY of pleasure their sandwiches took,
In the shade of a willow, that hung o'er a brook;
A bottle of WINE, that stood ready for drinking,
Thus spoke to the WATER (I think, without thinking):—

"How much more than *you* to be envied am *I!*
The drink of the titled and rich I supply;
While you (I could never endure it, I'm sure,)
Are stood in by cattle, and drank by the poor."

"I own," said the WATER, with modest reply,
"Your grandeur.—I never aspire so high:
I know the rich think me their notice below,
Except just for washing their faces, or so.

The Fox, the Raven, and the Dob

[From the Dutch.]

A Fox, who was half-starved with hunger, stre
himself all along upon the ground, and lay as
were dead, that he might entice the harmless bi
come within his reach, and then leap of a sudden
them, and make them his prey; but it happened
a Raven, who was hovering near him, observed
he fetched his breath; and, by consequence, fou
to be only a trick in him to catch the birds.
therefore, instantly gave them notice of it; and
warned them, as they valued their own lives, n
come within reach of the Fox, who only feigned
self to be dead.

The Fox, finding his plot to be discovered,
ed to go away hungry; but soon bethought
of another invention: which was, to go and
self in a hollow tree, upon which a Dove h
breeding up her young ones.
alled to her, that, unless she
him sometimes one of her eg
her young ones, he would c
ay all her eggs, kill both her
her nest to pieces.
Dove, thinking of two ills t
the Fox required her; and th

to her, began to praise her at a mighty rate,—magnifying her good fortune above that of all other beasts, who could neither fly like her, nor tread the ground with so majestical a gait: adding, withal, that it would be a great pleasure to him to see her lordly walk; that he might, from thence, be certain whether she were indeed so divine and prophetic a bird, as men had always held her to be.

The RAVEN, transported to hear herself thus praised to the skies, flew down; and, pitching upon the ground, walked to and fro, in mighty pomp and state. The Fox seemed highly delighted; and said, that he extremely wondered how the RAVEN could keep upon the

[illegible]hen the wind blew her feathers over her eyes,
[illegible]d her sight; but chiefly when it blew before,
[illegible] on all sides of her. "I can very well
[illegible]nst that," said the RAVEN; "for then I
[illegible]ad under my left wing." "How!" cries
hide your head under your left wing! So
never believe, till I see it."
put her head under her left
so long, that the Fox caught
her for his prey.

[illegible]ORAL.

[illegible]who give good advice to others,
[illegible]nough to follow it themselves.

He stretch'd his neck; and, from below,
With stretching neck advanc'd a foe:
With wrath his ruffled plumes he rears;
The foe with ruffled plumes appears:
Threat answer'd threat, his fury grew;
Headlong to meet the war he flew;
But when the wat'ry death he found,
He thus lamented as he drown'd:
"I ne'er had been in this condition,
Had I obey'd the prohibition."

MORAL.

Obey your parents, or 'twill be your fate,
To feel repentance when it comes too late.

The owner of the FOUNTAIN died;
Neglect soon brought decay;
The bursting pipes were ill-supplied;
The FOUNTAIN ceased to play.

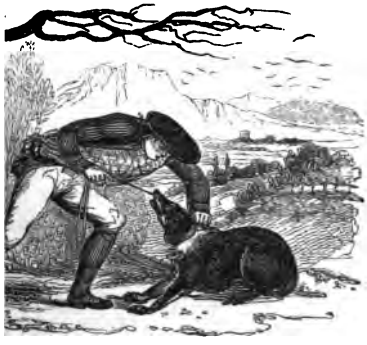
But still the BROOK its peaceful course
Continued to pursue;
Her ample, inexhausted source,
From Nature's fount she drew.

"Now," said the BROOK, "I bless my fate,
My shewy rival gone;
Contented in its native state
My little stream rolls on.

And all the world has cause, indeed,
To own, with grateful heart,
How much great Nature's works excel
The feeble works of art."

MORAL.

Humble u[illegible]ness is preferable to idle splendour.



FABLE LXV.

eep-Biter and the Shepherd.

[From Croxall.]

EPHERD had a Dog, upon whose fidelity
nuch: for, whenever he had an occasion
iimself, he committed the care of the
rge of his Dog; and, to encourage him
cheerfully, he fed him constantly with
d whey, and sometimes threw him a
traordinary: yet, notwithstanding this,
is back turned, but the treacherou
flock, and devoured the Sheep,

of guarding and defending them. The SHEPHERD, being informed of this, was resolved to hang him.

The Dog, when the rope was about his neck, and he was just going to be tied up, began to expostulate with his master,—asking him, why he was so unmercifully bent against him, who was his own servant and creature, and had only committed one or two crimes; and why he did not rather execute revenge upon the Wolf, who was a constant and declared enemy. "Nay," replies the SHEPHERD, "it is for that very reason that I think you ten times more worthy of death than he:—from him, I expected nothing but hostilities; and, therefore, could guard against him: you, I depended upon as a just and faithful servant, and fed and encouraged you accordingly; and, therefore, your treachery is the more notorious, and your ingratitude the more unpardonable."

MORAL.

own enemy is better than a treacherous friend.

FABLE LXIV.

The Brook and the Fountain.

[From the Polish of KRASICKI.]

A FOUNTAIN varied gambols played,
Close by an humble BROOK;
While gently murmuring thro' the glade,
Its peaceful course it took.

Perhaps it gave one envious gaze
Upon the FOUNTAIN's height,
While glittering in the morning rays,
Pre-eminently bright.

In all the colours of the sky,
Alternately it shone:
The BROOK observed it with a sigh,
But quietly roll'd on.

By conscience stung, he wildly stares,
And thus as guilty soul declares:—
"Had the deep earth her stores contin'd,
This heart had known sweet peace of mind.
But virtue's soul.—Good gods! what price
Can recompense the pangs of vice?
O name of good! seducing cheat!
Can man, weak man, thy power defeat?
Gold banish'd honour from the mind,
And only left the name behind;
Gold sow'd the world with ev'ry ill:
Gold taught the murd'rer's sword to kill:
'Twas gold instructed coward hearts
In treach'ry's more pernicious arts.
Who can recount the mischiefs o'er?
Virtue resides on earth no more!"
He spoke, and sigh'd. In angry mood,
Plutus, his god, before him stood:
The Miser, trembling, lock'd his chest;
The vision frown'd, and thus address'd:—
"Whence is this vile, ungrateful rant?
Each sordid rascal's daily cant.
Did I, base wretch! corrupt mankind?
The fault's in thy rapacious mind.
Because my blessings are abus'd,
Must I be censur'[illegible]d, accus'd!—
Ev'n virtue's [illegible]s, is made
A cloak to [illegible]de;

FABLE LXV.

The Sheep-Biter and the Shepherd.

[From Croxall.]

A Certain Shepherd had a Dog, upon whose fidelity he relied very much: for, whenever he had an occasion to be absent himself, he committed the care of the flock to the charge of his Dog; and, to encourage him to do his duty cheerfully, he fed him constantly with sweet curds and whey, and sometimes threw him a crust or two extraordinary: yet, notwithstanding this, no sooner was his back turned, but the treacherous cur fell foul upon the flock, and devoured the Sheep, instead

FABLE LXVII.

The Countryman and the Raven.

Shook the young leaves about her ears,
And filled her with a thousand fears,
Lest the rude blast should snap the bough,
And spread her golden hopes below.
But just at eve the blowing weather,
And all her fears, were hush'd together.
"And now," quoth poor unthinking Ralph,
"'Tis over, and the brood is safe."
(For RAVENS, though as birds of omen,
They teach both conjurors and old women;
To tell us what is to befal,
Can't prophesy themselves at all.)
The morning came, when neighbour Hodge,
Who long had mark'd her airy lodge,
And destined all the treasure there,
his ex ecting fair,
a rel to his dray,
rize away.

By conscience stung, he wildly stares,
And thus his guilty soul declares:—
"Had the deep earth her stores confin'd,
This heart had known sweet peace of mind.
But virtue's sold.—Good gods! what price
Can recompense the pangs of vice?
O bane of good! seducing cheat!
Can man, weak man, thy power defeat?
Gold banish'd honour from the mind,
And only left the name behind;
Gold sow'd the world with ev'ry ill;
Gold taught the murd'rer's sword to kill;
'Twas gold instructed coward hearts
In treach'ry's more pernicious arts.
Who can recount the mischiefs o'er?
Virtue resides on earth no more!"
He spoke, and sigh'd. In angry mood,
Plutus, his god, before him stood:
The MISER, trembling, lock'd his chest;
The vision frown'd, and thus address'd:—
"Whence is this vile, ungrateful rant?
Each sordid rascal's daily cant.
Did I, base wretch! corrupt mankind?
The fault's in thy rapacious mind.
Because my blessings are abus'd,
Must I be censur'd, curs'd, accus'd?—
Ev'n virtue's self, by knaves, is made
A cloak to carry on their trade;

FABLE LXIX.

The Angler and Little Fish.

[From Croxall.]

A Man was angling in a river, and caught a small Perch, which, as he was taking off the hook, and going to put into his basket, opened its mouth, and began to implore his pity, begging that he would throw it into the river again.

Upon the man's demanding what reason he had to expect such a favour; "Why," says the Fish, "because, at present, I am but young and little;

consequently, not so well worth your while, as I shall be, if you take me some time hence, when I shall be grown larger."

"That may be," replies the man; "but I am not one of those fools, who quit a certainty in expectation of an uncertainty. As I have got you, I will keep you." So saying, he threw him into the basket among the rest of the fishes.

MORAL.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

FABLE LXX.

The Robin and the Rook.

[From Sentimental Fables.]

A Robin, cheerful, blithe, and gay,
Who, titt'ring, hopp'd from spray to spray,
And never ceas'd to chirp or sing,
In winter's cold, or warmth of spring;
Was always in an easy frame,—
Whatever happen'd, still the same:
In the best light he'd all things view;
Enjoy'd each moment as it flew;
Nor heard the croaking bird that chatters
Of evils, death, and such-like matters.

As through the air he skimm'd along,
His journey short'ning with a song,
In view some lofty trees appear'd,
From whence loud, dismal moans, he heard:
A Rook was screaming o'er her brood;
Perpetual cawings fill'd the wood.

He stopp'd; when thus the Rook address'd
The lovely bird with ruddy breast:—
"I grieve to see thy careless state;
Oh! blind to the decrees of fate:
The brumal time will prove severe:
Dost thou nor cold nor hunger fear?
Nor tremble, lest the fowler's art
Should break thy wing, or pierce thy heart

I, therefore, choose to live alone;
For life itself's a burthen grown.
A thousand ills distract my brains,
And fear inflicts a thousand pains:
Sour discontent and murmurs rise;
Horror within my bosom lies:—
Wretched by day, I hate the light,
Yet dread the darkness of the night."

The cheerful bird with pity looks
On foolish, self-tormenting Rooks:
He quits the wood, all birds forsakes,
And near a cot his dwelling makes.

Now squalid storms deform the year;
Ea[illegible]ound in frost, the snows appear;
[illegible]ing at the window, he
y the family:
[illegible]est his host preserv'd;
y, wand'ring Rook, was starv'd.

[illegible]L.

[illegible]s within,
[illegible]nd quite serene;
[illegible]ive
[illegible]life can give;
[illegible]m all distress,
[illegible] happiness.

FABLE LXXI.

The Boys and the Frogs.

[From Dodsley.]

ON the margin of a large lake, which was inhabited by a great number of Frogs, a company of Boys happened to be at play. Their diversion was duck and drake; and whole volleys of stones were thrown into the water, to the great annoyance and danger of the poor terrified Frogs. At length, one of the most hardy, lifting up his head above the surface of the lake:—"Ah! dear children!" said he, "why will ye learn so soon to be cruel?—Consider, I beseech you, that though this may be sport to *you*, it is death to *us*."

MORAL.

A noble mind disdains to gain
Its pleasure from another's pain.

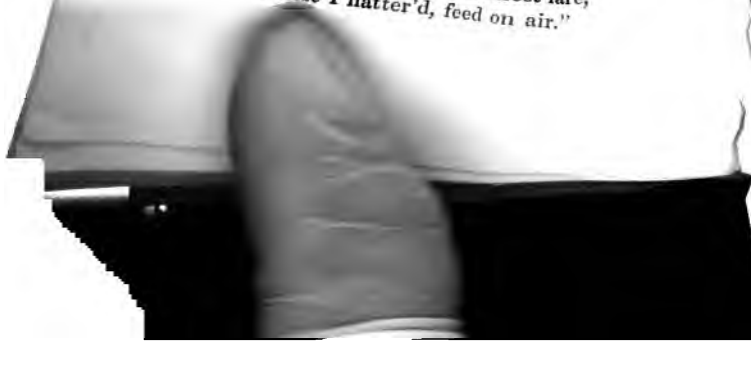
FABLE LXXII.

The Spaniel and the Chameleon.

[From GAY.]

A SPANIEL, bred with all the care,
That waits upon a fav'rite heir,
Ne'er felt correction's rigid hand;
Indulg'd to disobey command;
In pamper'd ease his hours were spent;
He never knew what learning meant.
Each little mischief gain'd him praise;
How pretty were his fawning ways!
The wind was south, the morning fair,
He ventures forth to take the air;
He ranges all the meadow round,
And rolls upon the softest ground;

When near him a CHAMELEON seen,
Was scarce distinguish'd from the green.
"Dear emblem of the flatt'ring host,
What, live with clowns! a genius lost!
To cities and the court repair;
A fortune cannot fail thee there.
Preferment shall thy talents crown;
Believe me, friend, I know the town."
"Sir," says the sycophant, "like you,
Of old, politer life I knew;
Like you, a courtier born and bred;
Kings lean'd an ear to what I said;
My whisper always met success;
The ladies prais'd me for address.
I knew to hit each courtier's passion,
And flatter'd every vice in fashion.
But Jove, who hates the liar's ways,
At once cut short my prosp'rous days;
And, sentenc'd to retain my nature,
Transform'd me to this crawling creature:
Doom'd to a life obscure and mean,
I wander in the sylvan scene.
For Jove the heart alone regards;
He punishes what man rewards.
How different is thy case and mine!
With men, at least, you sup and dine;
While I, condemn'd to thinnest fare,
Like those I flatter'd, feed on air."



FABLE LXXIII.

The Boy and the Wasp.

[From Pignotti.]

AMONG a garden's shrubs and flowers,
Which just had drunk spring's genial showers,
With tottering step, a lively child
Sported about, with rapture wild.
A gilded Wasp, with venom'd sting,
Circled about on busy wing;
And, round and round, he buzzing flew;
Now farther off, now nearer drew:
His gold and splendour soon decoy,
The sportive, unsuspicious Boy;
Who, greedy of the glittering prize,
To catch the insect vainly tries:
The Wasp escapes from place to place,
The Boy pursues in eager chase,—
Just as he deem'd he'd caught his prey,
The nimble insect stepp'd away;
Till tired, at last, he sought repose
Upon the bosom of a Rose;
The attentive Boy, with silent steps,
Towards the flower on tip-toe creeps;
And cautious, now, lest he should lose
His wished-for prey, he seized the Rose,
And held, within his ardent grasp,
The flower, together with the Wasp;

Who, thus assaulted, angry grew,
And, from its sheath, his weapon drew,
And savagely transfix'd the tender hand,
By which he roughly was detain'd.
The luckless Boy now shriek'd with pain,
And never chas'd a Wasp again.

MORAL.

Learn from this fable, thoughtless youth,
Of which, ere long, you'll prove the truth,
That under pleasure's fairest guise,
A secret poison often lies.

FABLE LXXV.

The Tulip and the Myrtle.

[From LANGHORNE.]

'TWAS on the border of a stream,
A gaily-painted TULIP stood;
And, gilded by the morning beam,
Survey'd her beauties in the flood.

And, sure, more lovely to behold,
Might nothing meet the wistful eye,
Than crimson, fading into gold,
In streaks of fairest symmetry.

The beauteous flower, with pride elate,—
Ah me! that pride with beauty dwells —
Vainly affects superior state,
And thus in empty fancy swells:—

"O! lustre of unrivall'd bloom!
Fair painting of a hand divine!
Superior, far, to mortal doom;
The hues of heav'n alone are mine!

Away, ye worthless, formless race!
Ye weeds, that boast the name of flowers!
No more my native bed disgrace,
Unmeet for tribes so mean as yours!

And thou, dull, sullen evergreen!
Shalt thou my shining sphere invade?
My noon-day beauties beam unseen,
Obscur'd beneath thy dusky shade!"

"Deluded flower!" the MYRTLE cries,
"Shall we thy moment's bloom adore?
The meanest shrub, that you despise,
The meanest flower, has merit more.

That daisy, in its simple bloom,
Shall last along the changing year;
Blush on the snow of winter's gloom,
And bid the smiling spring appear.

The voilet, who, those banks beneath,
Hides from thy scorn her modest head,
Shall fill the air with fragrant breath,
When thou art in thy dusty bed.

Even I, who boast no golden shade,
Am of no shining tints possess'd,
When low thy lucid form is laid,
Shall bloom on many a lovely breast.

And he, whose kind and fost'ring care
To thee,—to me, our beings gave,
Shall near his breast my flow'rets wear,
And walk regardless o'er thy grave.

THE TULIP AND THE NETTLE.

Deluded flower! the friendly screen
  That hides thee from the noon-tide ray,
And mocks thy passion to be seen,
  Prolongs thy transitory day.

But kindly deeds with scorn repaid,
  No more by virtue need be done:
I now withdraw my dusky shade,
  And yield thee to thy darling sun."

Fierce on the flower the scorching beam
  With all its weight of glory fell:
The flower, exulting, caught the gleam,
  And lent its leaves a bolder swell.

Expanded by the searching fire,
  The curling leaves the breast disclose:
The mantling bloom was painted higher,
  And every latent charm expos'd.

But when the sun was sliding low,
  And evening came, with dews so cold,
The wanton beauty ceas'd to blow,
  And sought her bending leaves to fold.

Those leaves, alas! no more would close;
  Relax'd, exhausted, sickening, pale;
They left her to a parent's woes,
  And fled before the rising gale.

FABLE LXXVI.

The Wasps and the Bees.

[From Dodsley.]

A Swarm of Wasps having laid claim to a nest of honeycombs, which had been deposited in the trunk of an old tree, by some Bees, the right owners protested against their demand; and, it being agreed between the disputants to abide by the decision of a third party, the cause was referred to a Hornet, who immediately proceeded to make the requisite inquiries.

Witnesses being examined, they deposed, that certain winged creatures, who had a loud hum, were of a yellowish colour, and somewhat resembling Bees, were observed for a considerable time to be hovering about the place where this nest was found. But it was held that this did not sufficiently decide the question; for these characteristics, the Hornet observed, agreed no less with the Bees than with the Wasps.

At length, a sensible old Bee offered to put the matter in dispute upon a decisive issue; and, for that purpose, directed that a place should be appointed by the court for the plaintiffs and defendants to work in: "for then," said he, "it will soon be apparent, which of us are capable of forming such regular cells, and afterwards of filling them with so delicious a fluid."

The Wasps refusing to agree to this proposal, sufficiently convinced the judge on which side the right lay; and he, consequently, decreed that the Bees were, in justice, entitled to the possession of the honeycombs.

MORAL.

So the dull lad, who slights his task,
And other boys' assistance asks,
When call'd to prove how much he knows,
Must soon the cunning fraud expose,
And 'stead of sharing merit's gains,
Will get a flogging for his pains.

FABLE LXXVII.

The Poet, Oyster, and Sensitive Plant.

[From Cowper.]

AN Oyster, cast upon the shore,
Was heard, though never heard before,
Complaining, in a speech well worded,
And worthy thus to be recorded :—
"Ah, hapless wretch! condemn'd to dwell
For ever in my native shell;
Ordained to move when others please;
Not for my own content or ease;
But toss'd and buffetted about,
Now in the water, and now out.
'Twere better to be born a stone,
Of ruder shape, and feeling none,

Than with a tenderness like mine,
And sensibilities so fine!
I envy that unfeeling shrub,
Fast-rooted against every rub."
The plant he meant grew not far off,
And felt the sneer with scorn enough;
Was hurt,—disgusted,—mortified,
And with asperity replied:—
(When, cry the botanists, and stare,
Did plants, called sensitive, grow there?
No matter when,—a poet's muse is
To make them grow just where she chooses)—
"You shapeless nothing in a dish!
You, that are but almost a fish!
I scorn your coarse insinuation,
And have most plentiful occasion
To wish myself the rock I view,
Or such another dolt as you:
For many a grave and learned clerk,
And many a gay unletter'd spark,
With curious touch examines me,
If I can feel as well as he;
And when I bend, retire, and shrink,
Says,—'Well! 'tis more than one would think!'
Thus life is spent, (oh, fie upon 't!)
In being touch'd, and crying—'Don't!'"
A Poet, in his evening walk,
O'erhea- k'd this idle talk.

"And your fine sense," he said, "and yours,
Whatever evil it endures,
Deserves not, if so soon offended,
Much to be pitied or commended.
Disputes, though short, are far too long,
Where both alike are in the wrong;
Your feelings, in their full amount,
Are all upon your own account.
You, in your grotto-work enclosed,
Complain of being thus exposed;
Yet nothing feel in that rough coat,
Save when the knife is at your throat;
Wherever driven by wind or tide,
Exempt from every ill beside.
And as for you, my Lady Squeamish,
Who reckon every touch a blemish,
If all the plants that can be found,
Embellishing the scene around,
Should droop and wither where they grow,
You would not feel at all—not you."
His censure reach'd them as he dealt it,
And each, by shrinking, show'd he felt it.

MORAL.

The noblest minds their virtue prove,
By pity, sympathy, and love;
These, these are feelings, truly fine,
And prove their owner half divine.

FABLE LXXVIII.

The Peasants, Hens, Ducks, Pigeons, and Bees.

[From the Dutch.]

SOME Peasants finding the times so hard, that, by tilling their ground with great labour, by diligently tending their cattle, and by fishing their ponds, they could get but a scanty livelihood, resolved, in a general meeting, not to take so much pains as they had done before, but to endeavour to allure some HENS, DUCKS, PIGEONS, and BEES, to come and live upon their lands. To this end, they promised them every kind of liberty and freedom; offered the FOWL to provide them with nests to breed in, and the BEES with hives to store up their honey; and declared, besides, that they would take from the FOWL only their superfluous eggs, and, now and then, only some of their young; and, from the BEES, only the wax and honey that they stood not in want of themselves.

This project of theirs succeeded so well, by reason of the great number of HENS, DUCKS, PIGEONS, and BEES that came and settled themselves there, that the PEASANTS lived in great ease and plenty till their death, and left behind them a parcel of prodigal children, who, having never known what it was to want, made little or no account of the advantages they reaped by the FOWL and BEES; finding that the HENS, by

their cackling,—the PIGEONS, by their cooing,—and the DUCKS, by their croaking,—disturbed their rest, and that they were sometimes stung by the BEES, they determined to be rid of these inconveniences. To this end, they all met together; and resolved to take from the FOWL their eggs, their young ones, and their nests; and from the BEES their wax, their honey, and their hives; and to make use of the nests and hives for their own service. And, accordingly, having done all this, the FOWL and the BEES found themselves under the necessity of repairing to other lands, where they might enjoy more liberty.

But when they were gone, these inconsiderate children soon perceived that, for want of the eggs and chickens of the FOWL, and the wax and honey of the BEES, they were forced to work harder than they had done before, and, nevertheless, got but a sorry livelihood; they, therefore, invited the FOWL and the BEES to return to their old habitations; giving them abundance of fair promises, how kindly they should be used, if they would come back. But they answered:—"We are very well where we are, and mean to continue here, as long as the PEASANTS use us well; and, though we should be forced to change our abodes again, we could not forget how unkindly you dealt by us; and would never come back to you any more." The children, having had this answer, bitterly bemoaned that poverty into which their folly had brought them.

FABLE LXXIX.

The Nightingale and the Glow-worm.

[From Cowper.]

A Nightingale, that, all day long,
Had cheer'd the village with his song,
yet at eve his note suspended,
yet when eventide was ended,
n to feel, as well he might,
keen demands of appetite;
en, looking eagerly around,
e spied, far off, upon the ground,
A so[illegible]hining in the dark,
low-worm, by his spark;

So, stooping down from hawthorn top,
He thought to put him in his crop.
The WORM, aware of his intent,
Harangued him thus, right eloquent:—
"Did you admire my lamp," quoth he,
"As much as I your minstrelsy,
You would abhor to do me wrong,
As much as I to spoil your song;
For 'twas the self-same power divine,
Taught you to sing, and me to shine;
That you with music,—I with light,
Might beautify and cheer the night."
The songster heard his short oration,
And, warbling out his approbation,
Releas'd him, as my story tells,
And found a supper somewhere else.

MORAL.

From this short fable, youth may learn
Their real interest to discern:
That brother should not strive with brother,
And worry and oppress each other;
But, join'd in unity and peace,
Their mutual happiness increase:
Pleas'd when each other's faults they hide,
And in their virtues feel a pride.

FABLE LXXX.

The Camel and Jupiter.

[From the Dutch.]

A CAMEL, who had never been seen by men, observed, that at first sight of him, they all ran away from him; that at the second, some of them stood their ground; and that at the third, one of them came up to him, and put a halter about his neck; and, from that time, loaded him with heavy burthens, and gave him more blows than meat. This, the CAMEL believed, had arrived to him, not as a consequence of his own nature, or of that of men, but only because he wanted horns to keep men off from him. He, therefore, represented
PITER, that he had provided almost all the large-
our-footed beasts with claws, teeth, or horns;
h that they were not only able to keep off all
her beasts, and even men themselves, from
g near them, but also to do them hurt, and to kill
thought, therefore, that he had great reason
JUPITER, that he, who, except the
ie biggest of all the four-footed kind,
s, so unprovided of weapons to defend
even children durst laugh at him, and
This, he thought, was a great hardship;
very earnestly besought JUPITER to
strong and sharp horns to grow

The god, indignant that a beast, who was truly of the Ass's kind, and fit for nothing but to drudge under heavy burthens, was so presumptuous as to think that he deserved a power of doing hurt to, and killing other beasts and men, found that the beauty of his head—for he had ears that were very graceful and becoming—had made him thus insolent and silly: he, therefore, deprived him of his ears; and, thus disfigured, sent him away, with these words:—"Get thee gone; and bear in patience the burthens that men shall think fit to lay upon thee; and learn, that thou, who art fit for nothing else, and worthy of no higher station, hast justly lost thy beautiful ears, that were the occasion of thy folly."

[illegible]

The [illegible] and his [illegible].

[illegible]

A Miser having scraped together a considerable sum [illegible] money by denying himself the common conve[illegible] of life, was much embarrassed where to lodge [illegible] securely. After many debates with himself, [illegible] fixed upon a corner, in a retired field, [illegible] deposited his Treasure in a hole, which [illegible] that purpose. His mind was now, for a [illegible] but he had not proceeded many [illegible] home, when all his anxiety returned, [illegible] forbear going back, to see that every [illegible] This he repeated so often, that he was, [illegible] a man, who was looking over a [illegible] meadow. The fellow, concluding [illegible] extraordinary must be the occasion of [illegible] the spot; and, coming in [illegible] the prize, carried it away.

[illegible] the Miser renewed his [illegible] his Treasure gone, he broke out [illegible] exclamations. A traveller, who [illegible] by his complaints, [illegible] "Alas," replied the Miser, "I [illegible] loss!—Some villain [illegible] money which I buried, [illegible] returned the traveller,

with surprise; "Why did you not rather keep it in your house, that it might be ready for your daily occasions?" "Daily occasions!" replied the MISER, with an air of much indignation; "Do you imagine I so little know the value of money? On the contrary, I had prudently resolved not to touch a single shilling of it." "If that was your wise resolution," answered the traveller, it is but putting this stone in the place of your TREASURE, and it will answer all your purposes quite as well."

MORAL.

The miser, who conceals his wealth,
But robs himself of peace and health;
Far happier he, whose generous mind,
To charitable deeds inclin'd,
Has felt, when succouring the distress'd,
That then he is supremely blest.

FABLE LXXXII.

The Hawthorn and the Primrose.

[From Fables of Flowers.]

BENEATH a wild and rustic shade,
Impervious to the view,
In the sweet smiling month of May,
A lovely PRIMROSE grew.

The gentle child of early spring,
By bounteous Flora crown'd;
With vernal beauties born to deck
The unfrequented ground.

The brightest dye, the sweetest scent,
Her yellow leaves could yield,
Were spent upon the empty air,
Nor e'er adorn'd the field.

For round her grew a bushy brake,
With many a thorn beset;
And many a weed, obscene and foul,
Deform'd the green retreat.

But high above the rest advanc'd,
A fragrant HAWTHORN rose;
Whose spreading branches overhung
That of her repose.

Her the lone Rose, in mournful guise,
Full many a day had eyed;
And thus, at length, one summer's eve,
She, all impatient, cried:—

"Ah, Thorn! the bane of all my hopes!
Ah, Thorn! that wound'st my peace!
Still must I view thy branches spread,
And still my woes increase.

What have I done, O wretch! that still
This evil treatment meets?
Or hast thou aught in lieu to give
To those who lose my sweets?"

The Hawthorn thus to her replied:—
"Fond pageant of an hour!
Art thou displeas'd because I bloom,
Though shelter'd by my pow'r?

And know'st thou not, that, but for me,
Thy boasted bloom were vain;
By grazing herds trod under foot,
And level'd with the plain?

Thee I protect; myself am known
Among the warlike race,
Whom Nature arms with prompt defence
Of most excelling grace.

Nor idly I these weapons wear,
Nor idle is my bloom:
One arms me for myself and thee,
The other sheds perfume.

Cease, then; nor envy this my state,
Which must thy own defend;
The thorns I bear shall save thy flower,
And prove thy surest friend."

So spake the HAWTHORN, justly wise;
The ROSE, unansw'ring, heard;—
I caught the moral as it rose,
And thus its sense appear'd:

MORAL.

Life's humble vale is most secure;
Cares on the exalted wait:
Yet those who well the weak protect,
Deserve unenvied state.

FABLE LXXXIII.

The Fir-Tree and the Bramble.

[From CROXALL.]

A TALL, straight FIR-TREE, that stood towering up in the midst of a forest, was so proud of his dignity and high station, that he overlooked the little shrubs which grew beneath him. A BRAMBLE, being one of the inferior throng, could by no means brook this haughty carriage; and, therefore, took him to task, and desired to know what he meant by it. "Because," says the FIR-TREE, "I look upon myself as the first tree, for beauty and rank, of any of the forest. My spring top shoots up into the clouds, and my branches displ-

themselves with a perpetual beauty and verdure; while you lie groveling upon the ground, liable to be crushed by every fool that comes near you, and impoverished by the luxurious droppings which fall from my leaves."

"All this may be true," replied the BRAMBLE; "but when the woodman has marked you out for public use, and the sounding axe comes to be applied to your root, I am mistaken if you will not be glad to change situations with the very worst of us."

MORAL.

In every condition we should be humble; for the loftier the station, the greater the danger.

FABLE LXXXIV.

The Sun-Flower and the Ivy.

[From LANGHORNE.]

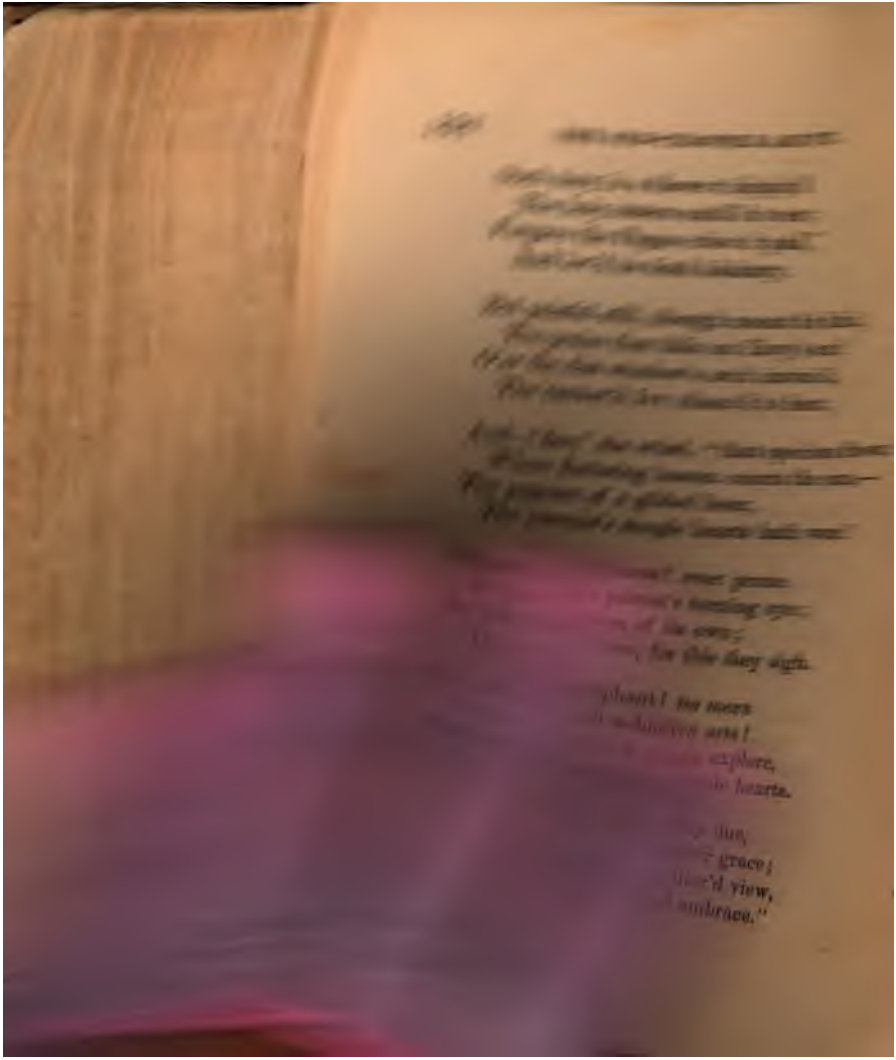
AS duteous to the place of prayer,
Within the convent's lonely walls,
The holy sisters still repair,
What time the rosy morning calls:

So fair, each morn, so full of grace,
Within their little garden rear'd,
The flower of Phœbus turn'd her face,
To meet the power she lov'd and fear'd:

And where, along the rising sky,
Her god in brighter glory burn'd,
Still there her fond observant eye,
And there her golden breast, she turn'd.

When calling from their weary height,
On western waves his beams to rest,
Still there she sought the parting sight,
And there she turn'd her golden breast.

But soon as night's invidious shade
Afar his lovely looks had borne,
With folded leaves, and drooping head,
Full sore she griev'd, as one forlorn.



"How well," the modest flower replied,
Can Envy's wrested eye elude
The obvious bounds that still divide
Foul Flatt'ry from fair Gratitude!

My duteous praise each hour I pay,
For few the hours that I must live;
And give to him my little day,
Whose grace another day may give.

When low this golden form shall fall,
And spread with dust its parent plain;
That dust shall hear his genial call,
And rise, to glory rise, again.

racious power, to thee
heart, my life are due!
gave that life to be;
ness shall that life renew.

ment from thy sight,
t-eye should stray!
in night;
has lost a day."

wer, and droop'd her head;
her breast bedew'd:
sisters shed,
wonder, view'd.

With joy, with pious pride, elate,—
"Behold," the aged abbess cries,
"An emblem of that happier fate
Which heaven to all but us denies.

Our hearts no fears but duteous fears,
No charm but duty's charm can move;
We shed no tears but holy tears
Of tender penitence and love.

See there the envious world portray'd
In that dark look, that creeping pace!
No flower can bear the Ivy's shade;
No tree support its cold embrace.

[illegible]k that rears it from the ground,
[illegible] bears its tendrils to the skies,
[illegible] his heart the rankling wound,
[illegible] its poisonous arms he dies."

FABLE LXXXV.

The Fly and the Wagon.

[From the Dutch.]

IT happened, that several Travellers were going a journey together in a WAGON, in the midst of summer, and made the best of their way over hill and dale, through dusty and sandy roads. A FLY, too, chanced to be going the same journey; and flew, sometimes about the Horses, sometimes about the Travellers, and sometimes about the Wagoner, and buzzed, continually, at a mighty rate; imagining, within herself, that she thereby drove on the horses, and made them ground the faster: so that, whenever they came the usual baiting-places, she flew now to one, to another of the passengers, and told them, "'Tis for the horses, and all of us, to rest ourselves: I, particular, who, by encouraging the Horses, the f you, make the WAGON go the e dust myself." To which, though well have returned this answer:— lid them no sevice at all; but that lesome to all of them, and rather nced their way;" yet they answered thinking her idle tattle worth a k it quite otherwise, and believed as an acknowledgment of the l.

No sooner, therefore, had the Wagon begun to set forward, but she flew up upon the beam, pretending to drive the Horses; and threatened them immediately, that if they did not mend their pace, she would fly on their backs and necks, and sting them to some purpose. Upon which, one of the Horses turning his head, and seeing it was only a paltry Fly that took upon her at that rate, and that she arrogantly assumed to herself the office of the Wagoner, answered thus:—"We are not wont to be frightened with big words neither, especially from one who can do nothing but talk. We fear, indeed, the man who sits before the Wagon, with a whip in his hand; and, without making such a swaggering, is always ready to lash us when we lag, or mind not our drawing; but as for thee, we defy thee: and huff, till thy heart ache, we will not, for that, go one step the faster." The haughty Fly took this in mighty dudgeon; and, thinking to revenge herself, leaped on the Horse's back, and darted in her sting so deep, that, ere she could get it out to fly away, Horse whisked about his tail, and struck her dead.

FABLE LXXXVI.

The Silly Champaigne.

[Freely translated from the Polish of KRASICKI.]

A bottle of wine,
Though good when we dine,
You may *not* think for morals remarkably fine.

But you may be wrong,
For it shall not be long,
Before you agree that the moral is strong.

A Pint of CHAMPAIGNE
Tried its freedom to gain;
But being well cork'd, found it labour in vain.

It cried "Oh! for a fork,
To draw out a cork!"
And wish'd all restraint and coercion at York.

Now, this is what I
Have heard little boys cry,
When dangerous liberties parents deny.

(They should only permit
What for children are fit,
Whose duty it is to hear and submit.)

Well, this WINE that I mention,
With foolish intention,
Endeavour'd to break through the bounds of prevention;

And fretting and foaming,
Impatient for roaming,
(Like troublesome children when washing and combing;)

Its passion revealing,
For liberty feeling,
[illegible]*push'd out the cork*, which bounc'd up to the ceiling.

The WINE was all wasted,
That after it hasted,
[illegible]t half a pint, which was none of it tasted.

For so quickly it follow'd
The "Pop!" which it halloo'd,
[illegible]nobody there was none of it swallow'd.

What remain'd of the show'r
Became, in an hour,
Quite vapid, and, by the next morning, turn'd sour.

The lesson we here
May study is clear;
All those (like CHAMPAIGNE) who play truant, my dear,

The limits beyond
Of relatives fond,
May be toss'd by a bull, or drown'd in a pond;

Or stolen away,
Or hurt in a fray,
So 'tis best, my young friends, when you're order'd, to stay.

Thus, I think, it is plain,
A good moral we gain
From the folly and fate of a Pint of CHAMPAIGNE.

[illegible]

o be ascribed to them, from whom she received most
f her waters." Bnt this the RIVER denied; inso-
uch that both of them referred the difference to the
cision of men, who reaped all the benefit, as well
the FOUNTAINS as the RIVER. The men consented
be arbitrators; but were too lazy to go over hill
d dale to visit the heads of those FOUNTAINS, and
whether the waters of the RIVER came from thence
not, and of how great advantage the FOUNTAINS
re to them; but, having often seen the rains and
ows fall from the heavens, and fondly doting on the
ward greatness of the RIVER, immediately decreed,
t the RIVER only was useful to them, and that they
eived no benefit from the FOUNTAINS.

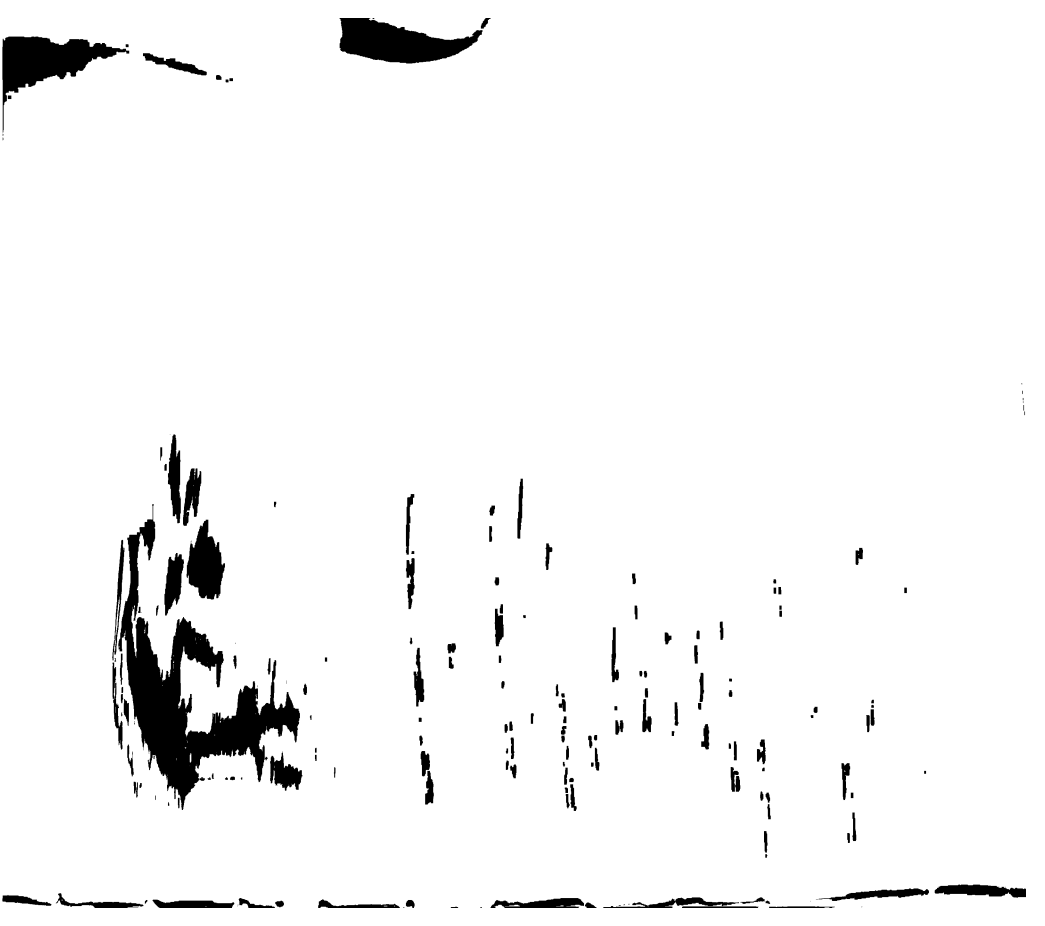
This vexed the injured FOUNTAINS, insomuch, that
hew the injustice of the sentence, that those ignorant
had pronounced, they kept in all their waters, and
sed to flow; whereby, the fields became parched with
ght, the RIVER unnavigable, and so dry, that even
fish perished; and, at length, those foolish men,
subsisted only by the benefit they received from
waters, and who, nevertheless, despised the sources
em, were forced to leave their dear abodes, and
search of other RIVERS and men, who so respected
cherished their FOUNTAINS, that they continually
d out their watery stores; whereby the inhabitants
e adjacent lands flourished, and lived in happiness
lenty.

FABLE XC.

The Farmer's Wife and the Raven.

[From GAY.]

BETWIXT her swagging pannier's load,
FARMER'S WIFE to market rode;
nd jogging on, with thoughtful care,
mm'd up the profits of her ware;
'hen, starting from her silver dream,
hus far and wide was heard her scream:
"That RAVEN, on yon left-hand oak,
'urse on his ill-betiding croak!)
)des me no good." No more she said,
'hen poor blind Ball, with stumbling tread,
ell prone; o'erturn'd the pannier lay,
ad her mash'd eggs bestrew'd the way.



FABLE XCI.

The Wolf, the Fox, and the Ass.

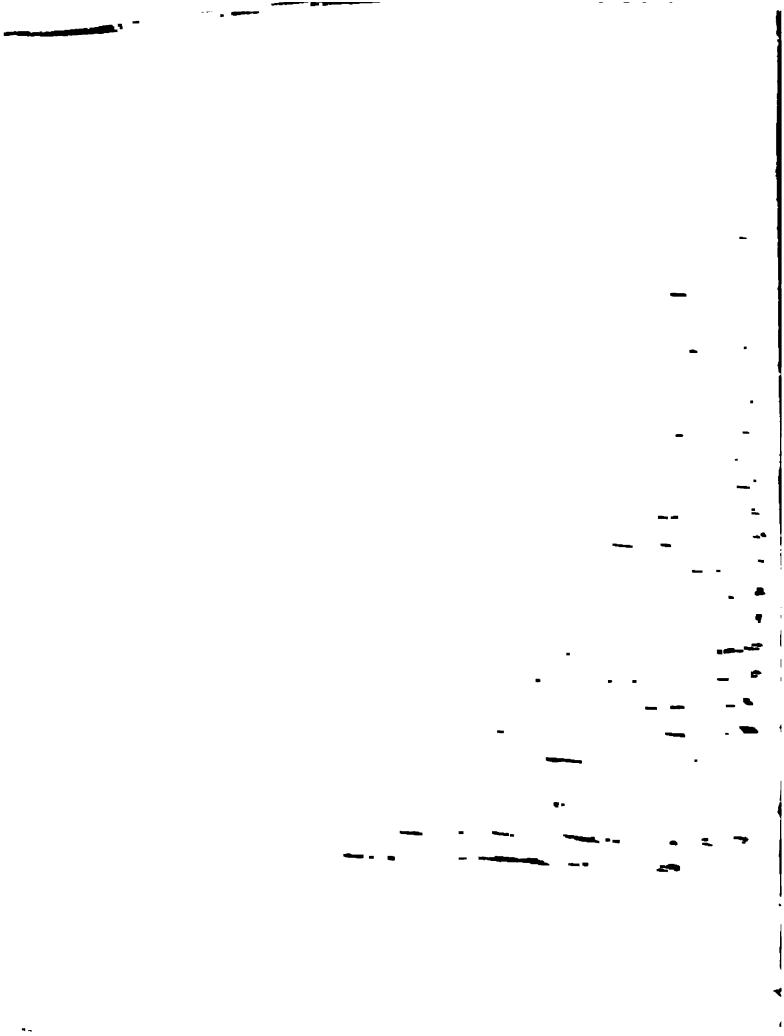
[From the Dutch.]

HE LION, as king of the beasts, made a law, that beast should, without lawful cause, do any hurt to ther; and should come once a year to court, to fess, and be absolved or punished, according to deserts. Now it happened, that the WOLF and the : were going thither together, and overtaking the on the road, said to him:—"Brother, it is a long to court, and it certainly must be much more ous to you than to ourselves, because of your pace; but we can save the trouble of going thither, ou think fit. Let us three confess ourselves to one her, and send our absolutions to court, attested by of us as witnesses."

The Ass liked the proposal; into a clover field they t, and the Fox thus confessed himself first:— happened, as I was going one night through a ge, a Cock, by his loud crowing, disturbed all the le that were asleep; at which I grew very angry, bit off his head; then, fearing that the stench of lead body might be offensive to the Hens, I eat up. Nevertheless, it happened, three days after, was going by the same village, those very Hens me; and, instead of thanking me for the

The Fox instantly argued in this manner:—
'hough you confess to have killed both mother and
ldren; and though it seems, at first sight, that you
'e heinously offended against the law of our king;
I see, nevertheless, that your intentions were good:
prevent mischief from falling upon men, to stir up
nother to her duty, and to shew compassion to her
erable children, are virtues that no law can forbid
punish. I, therefore, declare you absolved." To
ch the Ass agreed.

The Ass then made his confession:—"You both
w," said he, "that it is not in my nature to do
t to other beasts, nor to shed blood; and, there-
, you cannot expect to hear any such thing from
; but, to content you, I will relate to you what
pened innocently to me, while I was in the service
master. He was an old man, and apt to take cold
is feet; so that, when he travelled, to keep them
and warm, he was wont to stick a little hay in his
s. Now I carried him, one winter, to an inn,
'e he was to lie all night; and when we came to
door, the innkeeper brought him a pair of dry
ers, that his dirty shoes might not soil the house;
at he pulled them off, and left them without, and
y them. In short, my master and his host found
selves so well in the chimney-corner, that they
: thought of poor me; but left me all night
itter cold, without giving me a handful of f



FABLE XCII.

The Travelled Monkey.

[From Gay.]

A Monkey, to reform the times,
Resolv'd to visit foreign climes;
For men in distant regions roam
To bring politer manners home.
So forth he fares, all toil defies:
Misfortune serves to make us wise.

At length, the treach'rous snare was laid;
Poor Pug was caught, to town convey'd,

[redacted]

"Hear and improve," he pertly cries;
"I come to make a nation wise.
Weigh your own words; support your place,
The next in rank to human race.
In cities long I pass'd my days,
Convers'd with men, and learnt their ways;
Their dress, their courtly manners see;
Reform your state, and copy me.
Seek ye to thrive? in flattery deal;
Your scorn, your hate, with that conceal.
Seem only to regard your friends,
But use them for your private ends.
Stint not to truth the flow of wit;
Be prompt to lie whene'er 'tis fit.
Bend all your force to spatter merit:
Scandal is conversation's spirit.
Boldly to ev'ry thing pretend,
And men your talents shall commend.
I knew the great. Observe me right;
So shall you grow, like man, polite."

He spoke, and bow'd: with mutt'ring jaws
The wond'ring circle grinn'd applause.
Now, warm with malice, envy, spite,
Their most obliging friends they bite;
And, fond to copy human ways,
Practise new mischiefs all their days.

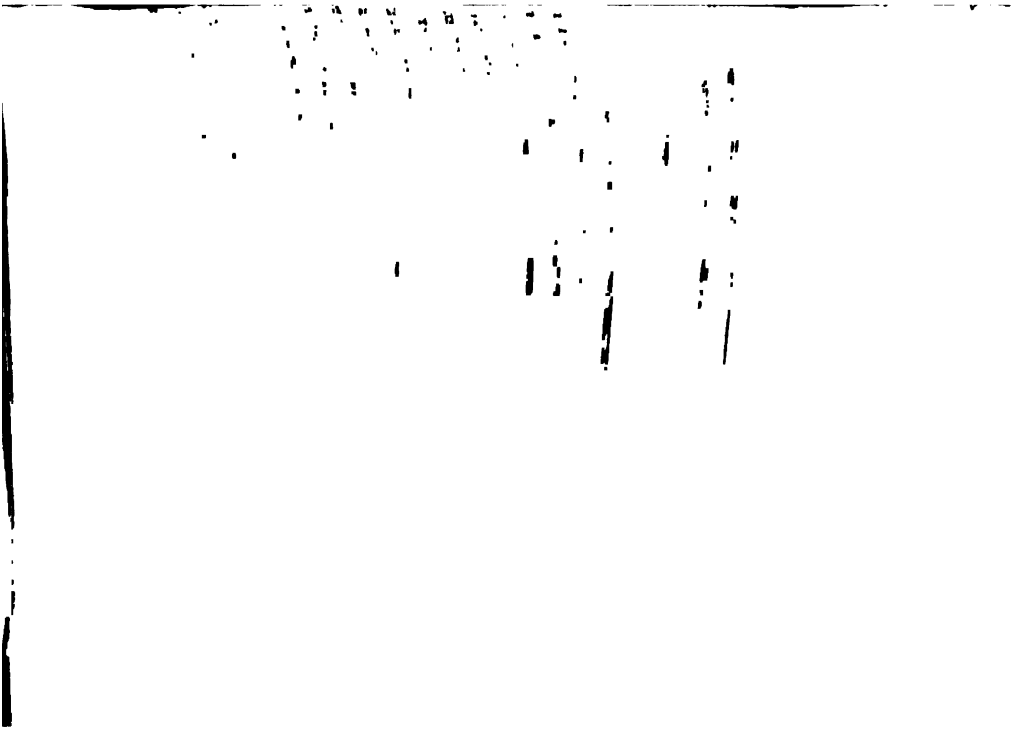
FABLE XCIII.

The Young Man and Swallow.

[From CROXALL.]

DIGAL young spendthrift, who had wasted his
atrimony, was taking a melancholy walk near
. It was in the month of January; and hap-
o be one of those warm days, which sometimes
pon us, even at that winterly season of the
nd, to make it more flattering, a SWALLOW,
ad made his appearance, by mistake, too soon,
nming along upon the surface of the water.

giddy youth, observing this, without any
onsideration, concluded that summer was now



FABLE XCIV.

Genius, and Reputation.

Genius, Reputation,
ar related, yet good friends)
, no doubt, for public ends,
tour throughout the nation.
ays Genius, "quit our own abode,
s may happen on the road,
tion seldom speaks in vain)
on certain signs agree,
ase we should part company,
Which way to meet again.
e my haunts I'll give a certain clue:
ver arts and sciences you view;
e painting, and where sculpture still are shewn,
breathing canvass, and on living stone;
where Apollo and the Nine inspire,
e wrote with ease, simplicity, and fire;
id prose sublime, precise, and clear;
ou may be sure I'm somewhere near."

enius spoke; and Virtue thus replied:—
need to search the town and country round,
re safe enough where you abide.
I could give so sure a guide;
when I chance to slip aside,
so easy to be found.

FABLE XCVI.

The Lily and the Rose.

[From COWPER.]

WITHIN the garden's peaceful scene,
Appear'd two lovely foes,
Aspiring to the rank of queen,—
The LILY and the ROSE.

E soon redden'd into rage;
ing with disdain,
nany a poet's page,
ıer right to reign.

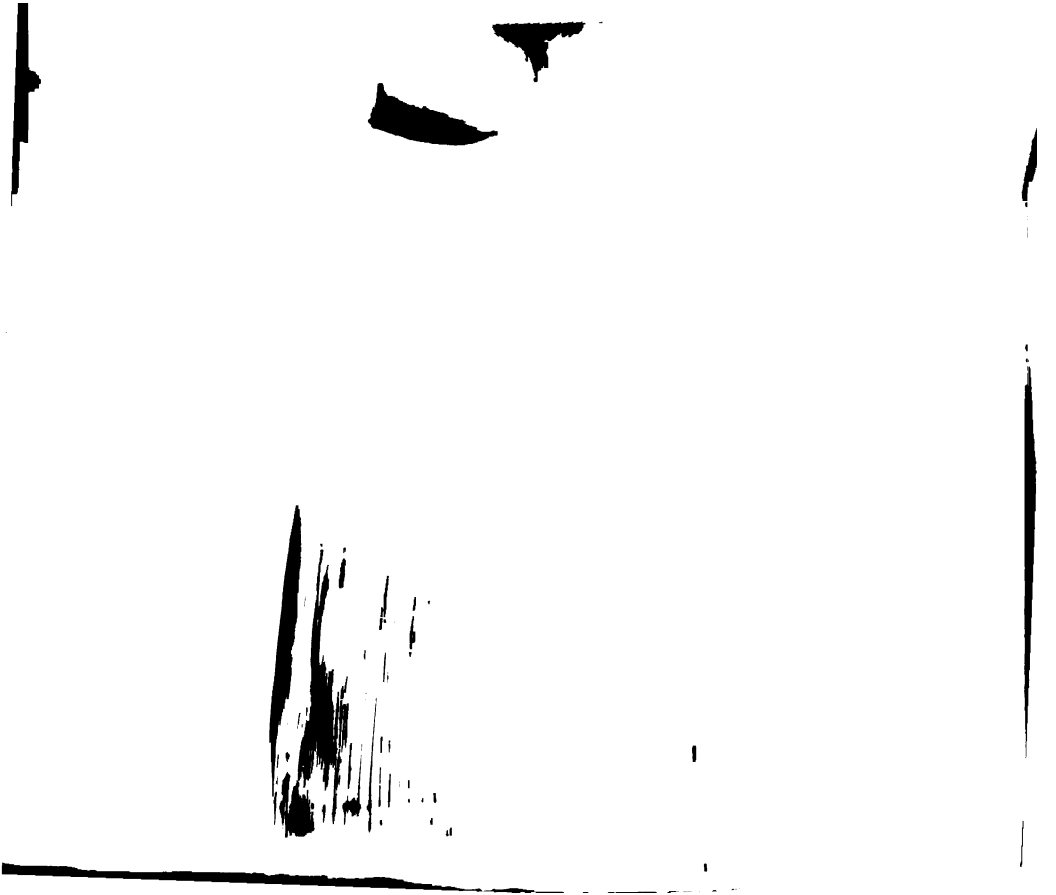
FABLE XCVII.

The Crow and the Pitcher.

[From CROXALL.]

ow, ready to die with thirst, flew with joy to a
:R, which he beheld at some distance. When
ıe, he found water in it indeed, but so near the
, that, with all his stooping and straining, he
›t able to reach it. Then he endeavoured to
n the PITCHER, that so at least he might be able
ı little of it; but his strength was not sufficient

At last, seeing some pebbles lie near the place
them, one by one, into the PITCHER; and th



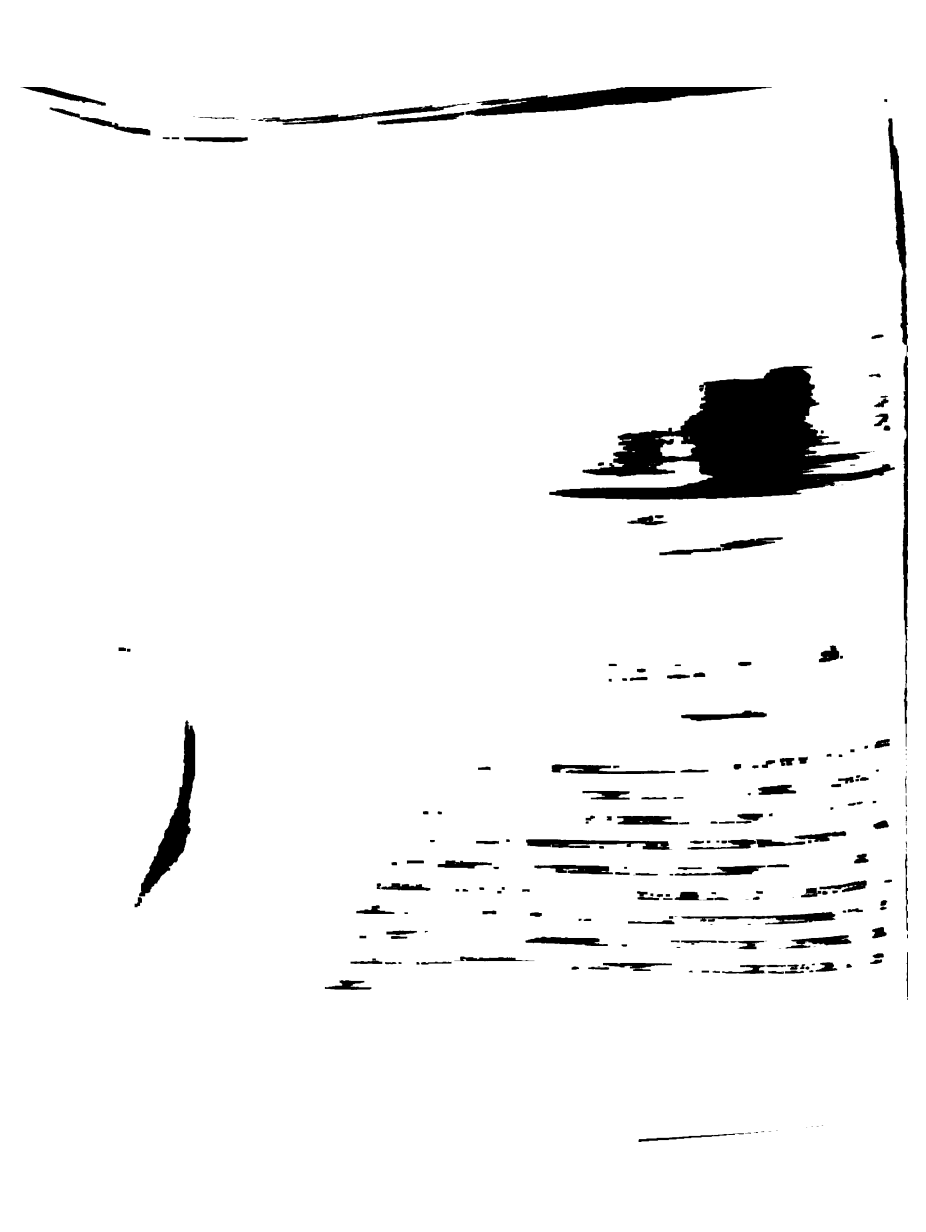
FABLE XCVIII.

The Chameleon.

[By Merrick.]

[illegible] has it been my lot to mark
[illegible]oud, conceited, talking spark,
[illegible]n eyes that hardly served at most
[illegible] guard their master 'gainst a post;
[illegible]t round the world the blade has been,
To see whatever could be seen.
Returning from his finish'd tour,
Grown ten times perter than before,
Whatever word you chance to drop,
The travelled fool your mouth will stop;
"Sir, if my judgment you'll allow,—
I've seen,—and, sure, I ought to know;"—
So begs you'd pay a due submission,
And acquiesce in his decision.

Two travellers, of such a cast,
As o'er Arabia's wilds they pass'd,
And on their way, in friendly chat,
Now talk'd of this, and then of that;
Discours'd awhile, 'mongst other matter,
Of the Chameleon's form and nature.
"A stranger animal," cries one,
"Sure never liv'd beneath the sun:
A lizard's body, lean and long,
A fish's head, a serpent's tongue.



Mouse heard his roarings, knew the voice
benefactor, and, immediately repairing to his
e, gnawed in pieces the meshes of the net;
delivering her preserver, convinced him that
no creature so much below another, but may
in his power to return a good office.

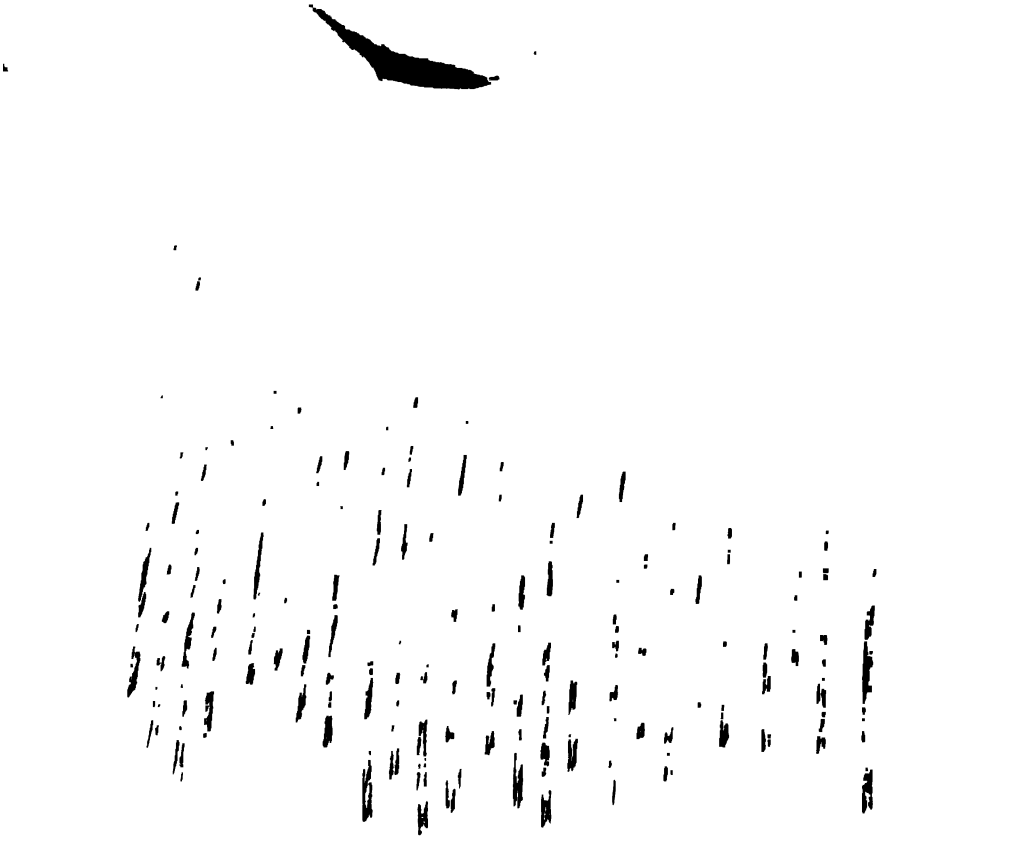
MORAL.

e are often indebted to the meanest creatures
e most valuable services.

[redacted]

Imperial Rome had been a village still,
ad she confin'd her sons to plough and till,
And nothing reap'd but grain."
"Happy for all mankind beside,
Had she been but so well employ'd,"
Resum'd the SOCK again.
'How many conquerors, ere now,
ve left the camp to re-assume the plough?
ugustus never had been styl'd
father of his country, great and good,
ut for his reign so peaceful and so mild,
ich made the world forget it rose in blood."

e SWORD had nothing more to say,
t thought it shameful to give way;
efore, as usual, in such plight,
, bully-like, began a fray,
challeng'd his antagonist to fight;
t first an oath or two he swore;
ich the PLOUGHSHARE smil'd, and said;
'er was to a duel call'd before,
will I answer it on any score.
I am, good Captain Bluff, afraid,
king's mine, and fighting is your trade.
. to clear this point before we part,
*me third im*partial person find,
ge our case." "With all my heart;
nder's one just to our mind,

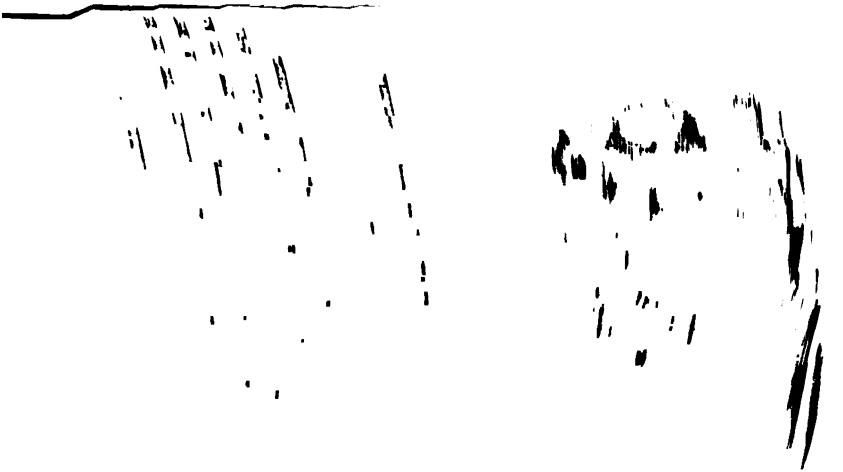


FABLE CI.

The Vain Jackdaw.

[From Croxall.]

ıgmatical Jackdaw was vain enough to imagine
e wanted nothing but the coloured plumes, to
him as elegant a bird as the Peacock. Puffed
ı this wise conceit, he dressed himself in some
r most beautiful feathers, and, in this borrowed
orsaking his old companions, endeavoured to
r a Peacock; but he no sooner attempted to
e with these elegant birds, than an affected
trayed the vain pretender.



FABLE CII.

The Youth and the Honeysuckle.

[From Floral Fables.]

AT height of noon, a youth reclin'd
Beneath a Woodbine bow'r;
Defended by whose thick'ning shade,
He pass'd the sultry hour.

But when mild breezes cool'd the air,
And length'ning shadows rose;
He *scann'd* with philosophic mind
The place of his repose.

High over-head the twining boughs,
Where thousand blossoms glow,
Of ev'ry beam of light bereav'd
The cool alcove below.

'Ah!" said the youth, "ungrateful still!
And dost thou thus repay
he bounties of that glorious God
Who wak'd thee into day?

Vhile he, in his meridian course,
Illumines wide the sky,
ost thou, O, wretch! resist his pow'r,
And all his beams defy?"

[illegible] KYSUCKLE.

[illegible] Woodbine heard;

[illegible]

[illegible] brow,

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

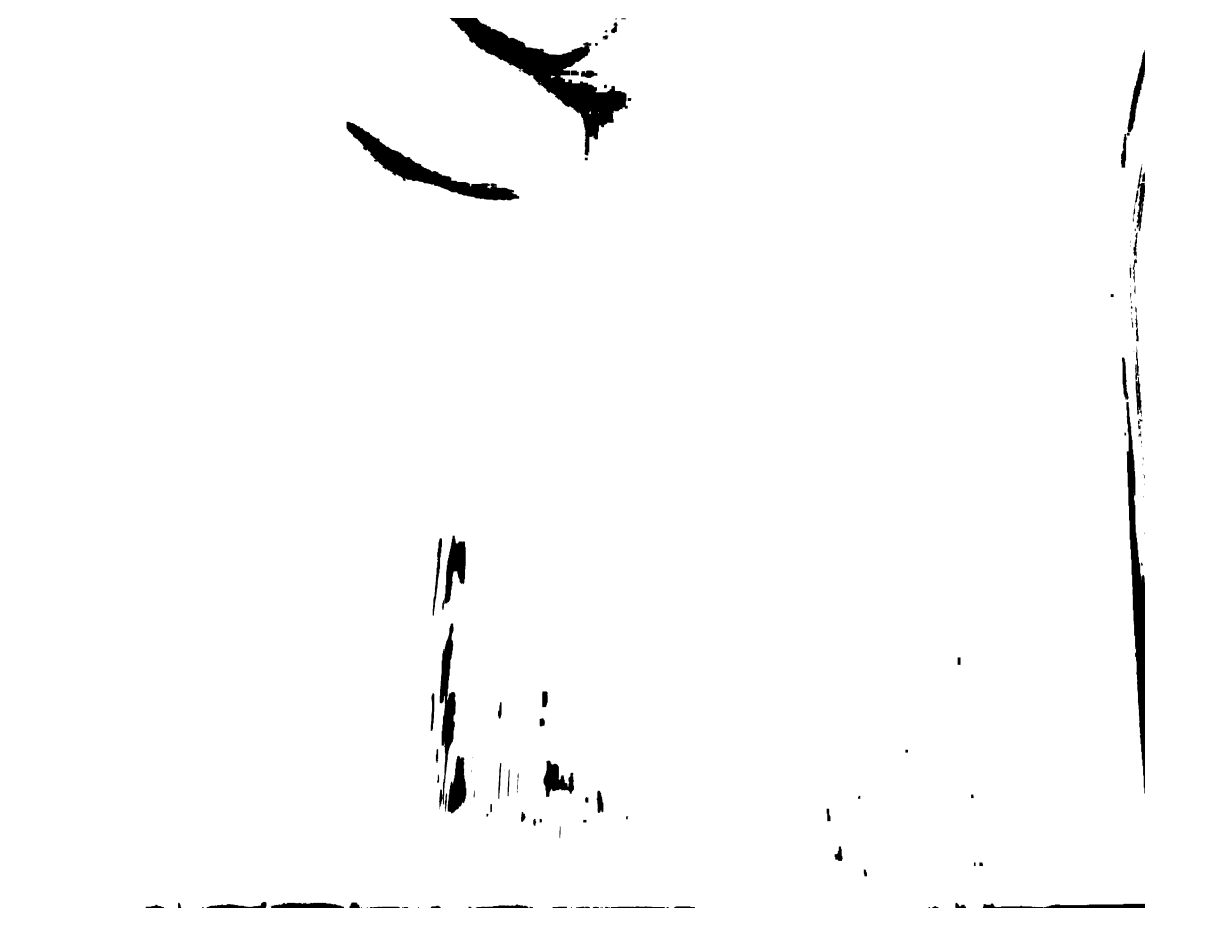
FABLE CIII.

The Pike and other Fish.

[From the Dutch.]

A PIKE, who always lived in fresh water, and had, meanwhile, observed that all the other FISH avoided him, grew thereby so stout, that, ever afterwards, he fell upon all that came near him, and swallowed them up, and thus made himself lord and master over all the river and fresh water FISH, on whom he fed so plentifully, that he was grown to an unusual size, and thought himself too big and too strong to have the extent of his power and dominion bounded by the river, and to rule over small FISH only. He, therefore, resolved to extend his sway to the sea, and to govern all the FISH that dwelt in the briny flood, though they had never done him any hurt,—nay, were wholly unknown to him.

Accordingly, he swam to the sea, with great joy,) take possession of his imaginary kingdom; but was) sooner arrived there, than a SHARK and a PORPOISE, :h that he had never seen before, darted at him, and ıt a check to his great design. He fled from them ımediately; but, in his flight, received several cruel)unds, before he regained the river, where he long



FABLE CIV.

The Bird-Call.

[From the Polish Fables of KRASICKI.]

A MIMIC I knew,
To give him his due,
Was exceeded by none, and was equall'd by few.

I could bark like a dog;
I could grunt like a hog;
ve, he could croak like a frog:

, as for a bird,
may trust to my word,
imitation that ever you heard.

... tone
... his own.
... the difference ...

... and Thrush
... "Hush!"
... yonder bush."

... caught the brace

... one day.
... came ... the way
... an excellent marksman, they say.

... hedge-wall
... his little bird-call.
... thought ... to imitate all.

And so well did he do it,
That ... flew to it.
... certainly cause to rue it.

... from him for one.

He was shot in the side;
And he feelingly cried,
A few minutes before he died:

"Who for others prepare
A trap, should beware
Lest they do not themselves fall into the snare."

oolish as to pay tribute to an enemy, against whom an protect myself by my own vigilance."

Three is a lucky number, thought the WOLF, and paired to a third SHEPHERD. "I am much grieved," id he, "that I am looked upon, by you SHEPHERDS, as e most cruel and remorseless of animals. I will prove you how much I am wronged. Give me a sheep very year, and your flock shall graze in safety in onder forest, which I alone make unsafe. One sheep nly—what a trifle! Can I be more moderate? can I leal more disinterestedly?—You laugh, SHEPHERD; what excites your mirth?" "Oh! nothing; but how old are you, my good friend?" replied the SHEPHERD. "How can my age concern you? I am quite young enough to kill your finest sheep," growled the WOLF. "Do not grow angry, old Isgrim; I am sorry that you came with your proposal seven years too late. Your broken teeth betray you; you are disinterested only in the hope of feeding more comfortably, and with less danger."

The WOLF became very surly, but composed himself, and sought the fourth SHEPHERD; who having just st his faithful dog, he deemed the opportunity favourble. "SHEPHERD," he began, "I have quarrelled ith my brethren in the woods, and shall never be conciled to them; you know how much you have to ar in that quarter; but take me into your service, in—

k ones as dead, and healthy ones as ailing. Do t, therefore, count on my friendship—but begone!"

I must now venture every thing to attain my urpose, thought the WOLF, as he repaired to the sixth HEPHERD. "SHEPHERD, how do you like my skin?" emanded the WOLF. "Your skin!" answered the SHEPHERD; "let me see; it is a very handsome one; the dogs have but seldom assailed you." "Well, then, listen, SHEPHERD: I am old, and cannot go on thus much longer; feed me until I die, and I will bequeath you my skin." "How," said the SHEPHERD, "have you found out the miserly trick of selling the skin on the back? No, no; your skin would, in the end, cost me more than it is worth; but if you are resolved to make me a present of it, give it me now."—So saying, the SHEPHERD grasped a spear, and the WOLF took to flight.

"Oh! the merciless crew!" exclaimed the WOLF, in rage; "I will die as becomes their enemy m killed with hunger; they will not have it H immediately ran back into the dwellings HE DS, attacked, and tore their children to W S with much trouble that the SHEPHERDS ed him. "We have acted indiscreetly," st among them; "we should not have l robber to the last extremity, forced and is repentance was."

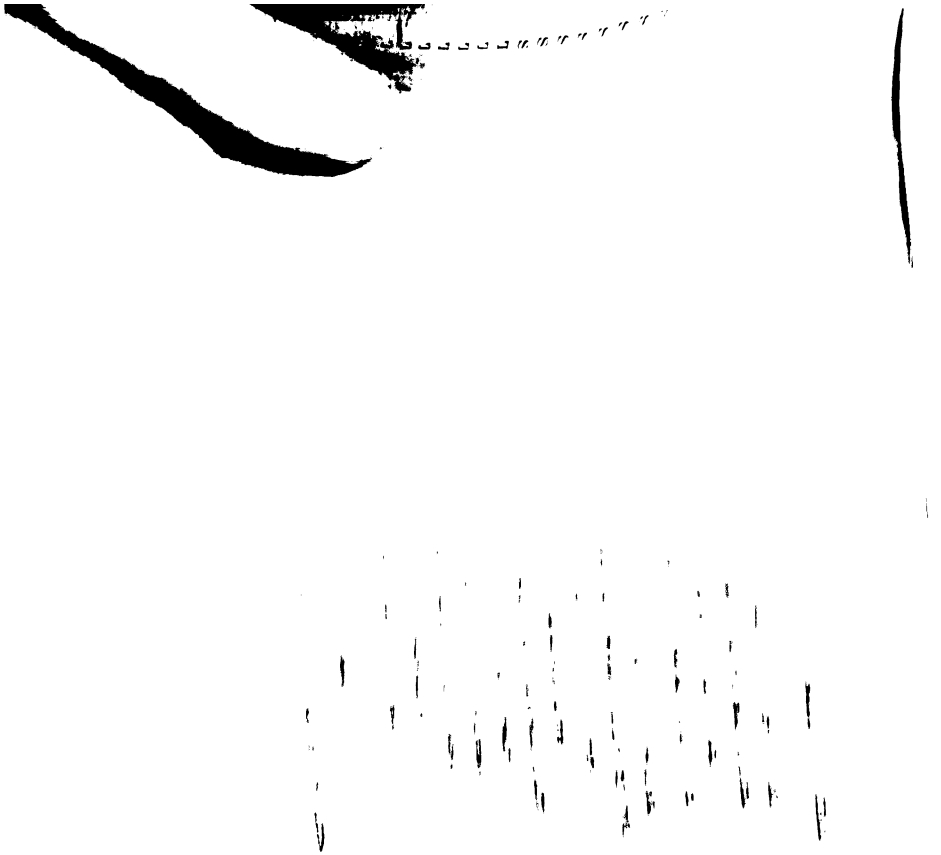
hen cited ev'ry living thing,
o hear the mandates of his king.

" Ungrateful creatures! whence arise
ıese murmurs, which offend the skies?
hy this disorder? say the cause;
ır just are Jove's eternal laws:
t each his discontent reveal;
you, sour Dog, I first appeal."

' Hard is my lot," the HOUND replies;
ın what fleet nerves the GREYHOUND flies;
ıile I, with weary step and slow,
r plains and vales, and mountains go;
ı morning sees my chase begun,
· ends it till the setting sun."

When," says the GREYHOUND, " I pursue,
game is lost, or caught in view;
ond my sight the prey's secure:
HOUND is slow, but always sure.
had I his sagacious scent,
ne'er had heard my discontent."

ıe LION crav'd the FOX's art;
FOX, the LION's force and heart.
COCK implor'd the PIGEON's flight,
ıe wings were rapid, strong, and light;
PIGEON, strength of wing despis'd,
:he COCK's matchless valour priz'd;



FABLE CVII.

The Proud Frog.

[From Dodsley.]

A Froo, being wonderfully struck with the size and majesty of an Ox that was grazing in the marshes, [illegible] forbear endeavouring to expand herself to [illegible]rtly magnitude.

[illegible]ng and swelling for some time, "What [illegible]ste[illegible]" said she; "Will this do?" "Far this?" "By no means." "But this, "Nothing like it."

FABLE CVIII.

The Dog and the Cat.

[From Denis.]

A Dog there was of special fame,
Of Spaniel breed, and Larder was his name;
We might have call'd him Pompey, Cæsar, Lion;
But, as times go, 'tis much the same:
No prop he wanted to rely on.
His virtues all self-centred meet;
Mild, faithful, affable, discreet.
Good-natur'd Larder was both here and there,
Would fetch and carry, back and forwards run;
Or hunt the duck, or course the hare,
And roast them when he'd done.
So much to please he had at heart;
The cook ne'er need to call out "faster!"
Nor when about he drew the cart,
With little miss or master.
In all the house, from high to low,
Spaniel could not count a foe;
cept a spiteful Cat,
ose friendship was like that
ma -kind,—mere outward shew.
me contention for a bone,
design, the vixen's ear had torn:
ich a secret grudge she bore;

[illegible] after many ridiculous efforts to the s[illegible] [illegible] the simple Frog burst her skin, [illegible] [illegible] upon the spot.

MORAL.

[illegible] of our power, only expose[illegible] [illegible] and contempt.

Eggs.

(a Aesop too)

…e to possess a
…ery day. But,
… increased than
… kill the Goose,
… at once come to
… fancied she had
… wait for the slow
…e did so; and, to
…t, found nothing.

And now resolves, his life alone
Should for so great a crime atone.
Malice, for ever on the watch
An opportunity to catch,
At last the moment found.
A fav'rite Daw, that hopp'd around,
By luckless chance fell in the way,
Where Puss in wicked ambush lay.
Sudden she seiz'd him by the throat,
And stopp'd for e'er his prating note:
Then plac'd the corpse at Larder's door;
Retired, lay down, and purr'd demure.
The mistress of the house no sooner spied
Her mangled darling where it lay;
"Haste, all, to my revenge," she cried,
"This villain, monster, murderer, slay;
'Tis blood alone can blood repay."
With grief the servants took the harsh commands,
And on poor Larder lay their violent hands.
Each, as he struck, a tear let fall,—
But that was all.
To friendship, then, what vain pretence?
Where none stood up in his defence.
The Cat, indeed, came in their head.
"Who knows," they said,
"as suffer'd for another's crime!"
now was out of time;
; but it can't be help'd; he's dead."

FABLE CIX.

Hercules and the Carter.

[From CROXALL.]

AS a clownish fellow was driving his cart along a deep miry lane, the wheels stuck so fast in the clay, that the horses could not draw them out. Upon this, he fell a bawling and praying to HERCULES to come and help him. HERCULES, looking down from a cloud, bid him not lie there, like an idle rascal as he was, but get up and whip his horses stoutly, and clap his shoulder to the wheel; adding, that this was the only way for him to obtain his assistance.

MORAL.

Heaven helps those who help themselves.

X.

[illegible]

[illegible] size and matter made.
[illegible] stream convey'd.
[illegible] solid brass.
[illegible] water pass;
[illegible] substance was but brittle clay.
[illegible] the stronger way.
[illegible] draw near.
[illegible] cause his fear;
[illegible] could prevent
[illegible] as they went.
[illegible] his weaker frame.
[illegible] came;
[illegible] tempestuous tide
[illegible] broken side.
[illegible] strong.
[illegible] broke.

[illegible]

FABLE CXI.

The Goose with the Golden Eggs.

[From Croxall.]

A certain man had the good fortune to possess a Goose, which laid him a golden egg every day. But, not contented with this, which rather increased than abated his avarice, he was resolved to kill the Goose, and cut up her belly, that so he might at once come to the inexhaustible treasure, which he fancied she had within her, without being obliged to wait for the slow production of a single egg daily. He did so; and, to his great sorrow and disappointment, found nothing.

FABLE CXII.

The Mice in Council.

[From LA FONTAINE.]

HERE once was a Cat, of all tabbies the flower,
Who with zeal so unwearied would vermin devour,
That her master's wide buildings she clear'd in a trice,
Destroy'd all the Rats and two-thirds of the MICE.
The remnant there left,—poor unfortunate souls!—
Were starv'd, as they scarcely dar'd peep from their holes.
For, like the furr'd Cats of old Rabelais' forum,
She seiz'd 'em, and bit 'em, and claw'd 'em, and tore 'em.
Puss, in short, through the granary, stable, and house,
Was the utter abhorrence of every MOUSE.
E'en the sound of her name all the MICE of the barn hate;
They think her no Cat, but a devil incarnate.
One night, (for, tho' cruel, what heart is love-proof?)
With a friend, an appointment she made on the roof.
The MICE, when they ceas'd to see, hear, or smell her,
Quickly summon'd a chapter to meet in the cellar.
The cause was proclaim'd in a manner precise,
To save from perdition the whole race of MICE.
They met:—other members had nought to propose,
When the Dean of the synod with gravity rose.

"I have hit on a plan," said the senior, "with me
I think, my dear friends, you'll not fail to agree
Of our velvet-shod foe the rapidity such is,
Ere we hear her light footsteps we feel her sharp clutches
On the matter in hand I'll not tediously dwell:
My scheme—round her neck is to fasten a bell:—
And then, on our haunts as this savage beast pounces
Her approach, in a moment, this warning announces
By night and by day a strict watch duly keeping,
A time may be found when this demon is sleeping
This done, no more danger we fear from her claws."
He ceas'd, and the conclave all murmur'd applause
Said a long whisker'd Mouse, "For this able oration,
We owe to our president much obligation,
[illegible] the plan has been voted by just acclamation:
[illegible] nothing remains but this question to ask:—
[illegible] Mice volunteer for this difficult task?"—
[illegible] silence ensued:—when he urg'd a reply,
[illegible] answer return'd by each Mouse was, "Not I!"
[illegible]'d; soon dissolv'd the divan,
[illegible] holes every Mouse of them ran!

FABLE CXIII.

The Old Hound and the Huntsman.

[From Croxall.]

AN old Hound, who had been an excellent good one in his time, and given his master great sport and satisfaction in many a chase, at last, worn out by age, became feeble and unserviceable. However, being in the field, one day, when the Stag was almost run down, he happened to be the first that came in with him, and seized him by one of his haunches; but his decayed and broken teeth not being able to keep their hold, the Deer escaped, and threw him quite out. Upon which,

his master, being in a great passion, and going to strike him, the honest old creature is said to have barked out this apology:—"Ah! do not strike your poor, old servant; it is not my heart and inclination, but my strength and speed, that fail me. If what I now am displeases you, pray recollect what I have been.

MORAL.

Past services should never be forgotten.

FABLE CXIV.

The Needless Alarm.

[From Cowper.]

THERE is a fi[illegible] through which I often pass,
Thick ov[illegible] h moss and silky grass;
A n[illegible] rushy banks conceal'd,
Ru[illegible] and divides the field;
A[illegible] d slopes to its wat'ry bourn,
W[illegible] beside a ragged thorn;
Br[illegible] s, but *shiver'd* long ago,
An[illegible] es *intertwine* below.
Th[illegible] d, and beans were in the stack,
T[illegible] ed *forth the* spotted pack,

With tails high mounted, ears hung low, and throats
With a whole gamut fill'd of heav'nly notes;
Sheep graz'd the field,—some with soft bosom press'd
The herb as soft, while nibbling stray'd the rest;
Nor noise was heard but of the hasty brook,
Struggling, detain'd in many a pretty nook.
But when the huntsman, with distended cheek,
'Gan make his instrument of music speak,
And from within the wood that crash was heard,
Though not a hound from whom it burst appear'd,
The sheep recumbent, and the sheep that graz'd,
All huddling into phalanx, stood, and gaz'd;
Admiring, terrified, the novel strain,
Then cours'd the field around, and cours'd it round
again;
But recollecting, with a sudden thought,
That flight, in circles urg'd, advanc'd them nought,
They gather'd close around the old pit's brink,
d thought again,—but knew not how to think.
hile they mus'd, surveying ev'ry face,
hadst suppos'd them of superior race;
periwigs of wool, and fears combin'd,
p'd on each countenance such marks of mind;
n thus a mutton, statelier than the rest,
am, the ewes and wethers sad, address'd:—

"Friends—
nds—
ve liv'd too long;—I never heard
so worthy to be fear'd;

Could I believe that winds, for ages pent
In earth's dark womb, have found, at last, a vent,
And from their prison-house below, arise
With all these hideous howlings, to the skies,
I could be much compos'd; nor should appear,
For such a cause, to feel the slightest fear.
Yourselves have seen, what time the thunder roll'd
All night, me resting quiet in the fold;
Or heard we that tremendous bray alone,
I should expound the melancholy tone;
Should deem it by our old companion made,
The ass; for he, we know, has lately stray'd;
And being lost, perhaps, and wandering wide,
Might be supposed to clamour for a guide:—
But, ah! those dreadful yells what soul can hear,
That owns a carcass, and not quake for fear?
Demons produce them; doubtless, brazen-claw'd,
And fang'd with brass, the demons are abroad:
Hold it, therefore, wisest and most fit,
That, life to save, we leap into the pit."
Him answer'd, then, his loving mate and true,
But more discreet than he, a Cambrian ewe:—

"How, leap into the pit, our life to save!
To save our life, leap all into the grave!
For, can we find it less?—Contemplate first
The depth, how awful! falling there, we burst;

may do as you please, but I will watch her motions though I stay at home this month for it."

When she had said this, which could not fail of putting the EAGLE into a great fright, down she went and made a visit to the Sow, at the bottom; and, putting on a sorrowful face, "I hope," says she, "you do not intend to go abroad to-day?" "Why not?" says the Sow. "Nay," replies the other, "you may do as you please; but I overheard the EAGLE tell her young ones that she would treat them with a Pig, the first time she saw you go out; and I am not sure but she may take up with a Kitten, in the mean time; so, good morrow to you: you will excuse me, I must go and take care of my folks at home."

She went accordingly; and by contriving to [illegible] only at nights for her prey, and to stand [illegible] and peeping all day at her hole, as under [illegible] she made such an impression upon the [illegible] neither of them dared venture [illegible] other. The consequence of [illegible] and their young ones, in a [illegible] and made prizes of, by the [illegible] Kittens.

[illegible]BAL.

[illegible]ords

[illegible] than swords.

FABLE CXVI.

Brahmin, Hedgehog, Snail, and Sensitive Plant.

) guide the treasures we enjoy,
l ev'ry gift of mind employ,
t we may blessings round us spread,
ring the path of life we tread;
ke the sun and southern show'rs,
rn the earth with richest flow'rs;
submit, at times, to pain,
tude we must attain.

stern climes, a fav'rite spot
de a gard'ner's happy lot,
ght each shrub to flourish there,
ited climate, soil, and air;
l plants to him were kind,
e father of the mind:
agoras explor'd,
-day might next be lord.
, tracing from the glade,
n plant that lov'd the shade;
immediate from the blow,
nsation laid it low.
erdant beauties lay;
EDGEHOG kept his way:

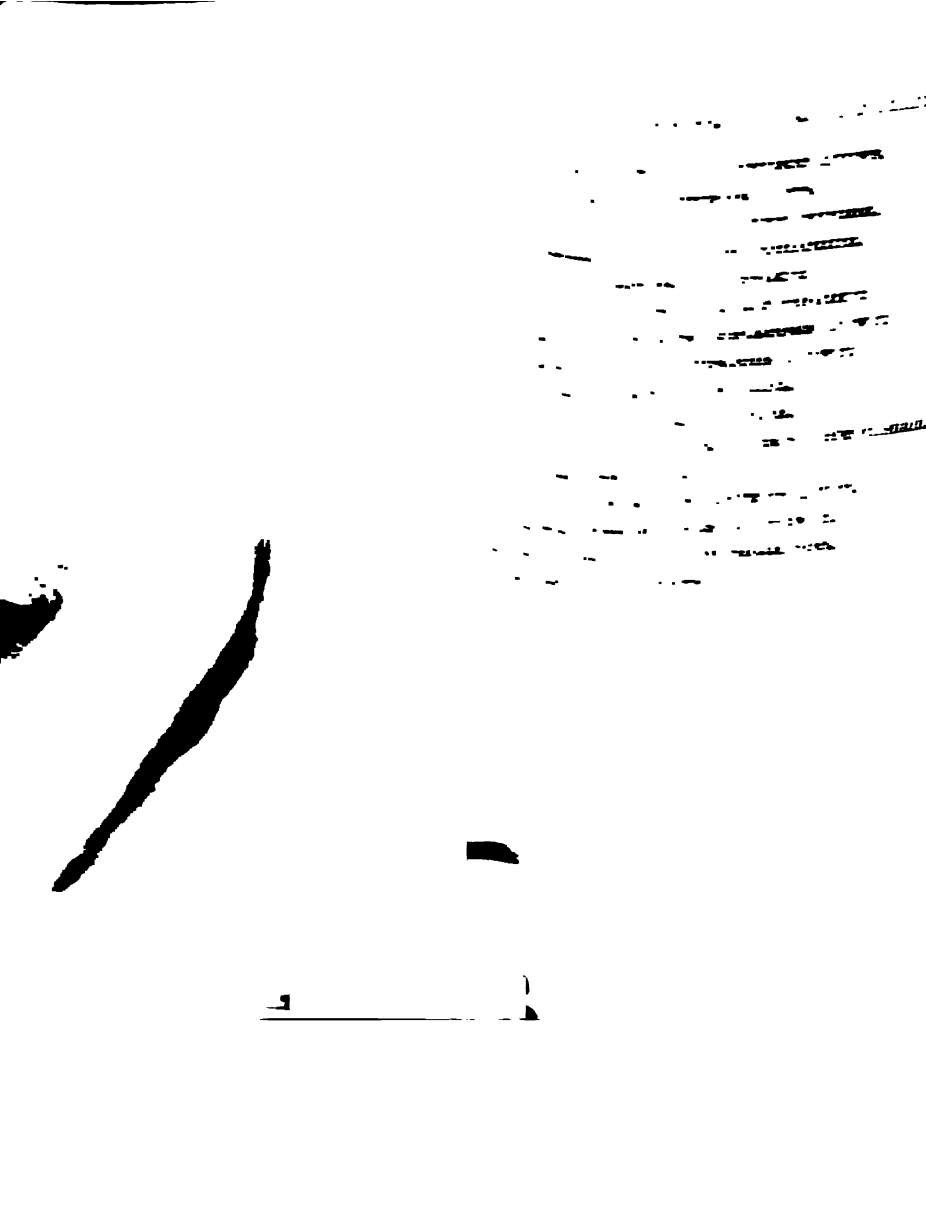
Folded within his prickly state,
Callous he view'd the other's fate;
Complaint was heard with silent scorn,
Unpitied by that moving thorn.

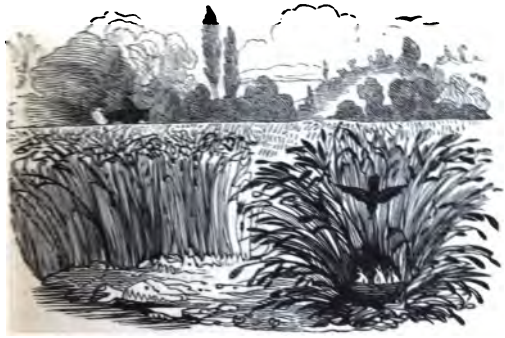
A SNAIL, chance neighbour to the strife,
Who in himself led quiet life,
Was busied in surveying round,
His own importance on the ground;
His shell adorn'd with pearly hue,
Tinctur'd with gold, and strip'd with blue;
Heard the sad story of the PLANT,
But could not even pity grant:
His house was safe, his utmost care,
All other things were passing air.

"Good Heav'n!" exclaim'd the suff'ring LEAF,
"Why was I made alone for grief?
Wh[illegible]sitive?—thus doom'd by laws,
[illegible]revenge my cause!
[illegible]ruffian passer-by
[illegible]me bleed—Oh! let me die!"
[illegible] no more," was heard a voice;
[illegible]it, reason, and rejoice."

[illegible]RAHMIN, who, at dawn of day,
[illegible]been to pray,
[illegible]r musing led,
[illegible]he dead:

He heard the PLANT, he saw the deed,
And, pitying, spoke, in time of need.
" Complain no more; for spirits know,
Ye are but passengers below;
Invested each with transient pow'r,
To fill the progress of an hour.
That HEDGEHOG, through a train of years,
However varied, shape and ears,
Whether in upright form he's dress'd,
Shall the same HEDGEHOG be confess'd.
Rude and unfeeling, saucy, proud,
He'll trample on the weaker crowd;
And, folded up in fancied state,
Insult the difference made by fate.
That SNAIL, again, thy wish'd-for friend,
Still shall be SNAIL, what may attend;
In lazy peace he crawls along,
Gaz'd at, and envied by the throng
Of flutt'ring insects, who expire
With that day's sun, which was their sire:
to yourself, resolve and hear,—
shall adorn another sphere.
state of trial here below,
es mortal pain a constant foe;
you, thus tried, shall pass approv'd,
gher stations more belov'd:
are the foliage of decay,
spring, bear fruit, and fade away;





FABLE CXVII.

The Lark and her Young Ones.

[From CROXALL.]

A LARK, who had young ones in a field of corn, which
almost ripe, was under some fear lest the reapers
co to reap it before her young brood was
able to remove from the place. She, there-
ng abroad to look for food, left this charge
That they should take notice what they
ed of in her absence, and tell her of it when
back again.

she was gone, they heard the owner of the
o his son; "Well," says he, "I think

FABLE [illegible]

The Cat and the [illegible]

From Cowper.

A Poe[illegible] Cat, sedate and grave,
A[illegible] poet well could wish to have.
[illegible] much addicted to inquire
[illegible] nooks to which she might retire:
[illegible] where, secure as mouse in chink,
[illegible] repose, or sit and think.
[illegible] where she caught the trick:
[illegible] had cast her
[illegible]philosophique;
[illegible] master.

es ascending, debonaire,
-tree or lofty pear;
with convenience, in the fork,
ch'd the gardener at his work.
nes her ease and solace sought
ld empty watering-pot;
wanting nothing, save a fan,
m some nymph in her sedan,
rell'd in exactest sort,
ready to be borne to court.
ove of change, it seems, has place,
only in our wiser race,
s also feel, as well as we,
at passion's force, and so did she.
er climbing, she began to find,
xpos'd her too much to the wind;
nd the old watering-pot of tin
Was cold and comfortless within:
She, therefore, wish'd, instead of those,
Some place of more serene repose,
Whe e neither cold might come, nor air,
r ly wanton with her hair;
l ght it, in the likeliest mode,
l her master's snug abode.
r r, it chanc'd at bottom lin'd
nen of the softest kind,
h such as merchants introduce
m India, for the ladies' use;

A drawer, impending o'er the rest,
Half open, in the topmost chest,
Of depth enough and none to spare,
Invited her to slumber there;
Puss, with delight beyond expression,
Surveyed the scene, and took possession.
Recumbent at her ease, ere long,
And lull'd by her own hum-drum song,
She left the cares of life behind,
And slept as she would sleep her last
When in came, housewifely inclin'd,
The chambermaid, and shut it fast:
By no malignity impell'd,
But all unconscious whom it held.
Awaken'd by the shock, cried Puss,
"Was ever Cat attended thus!
The open drawer was left, I see,
Merely to prove a nest for me.
For as I was well compos'd,
the maid, and it was clos
these 'kerchiefs, and he
delicate retreat!
myself to rest,
ning in the west.
supper, when, no doubt
me and let me out."
came, the sun descend
nained still unattended

he night roll'd tardily away,
With her, indeed, 'twas never day.)
ıe sprightly morn her course renew'd,
ıe evening grey again ensued,
ıd Puss came into mind no more
ın if entomb'd the day before.
With hunger pinch'd, and pinch'd for room,
now presag'd approaching doom;
slept a single wink, nor purr'd,
ıcious of jeopardy incurr'd.
night, by chance, a POET, watching,
d an inexplicable scratching;
oble heart went pit-a-pat,
o himself he said,—"What's that?"
ew the curtain at his side,
ırth he peep'd, but nothing spied;
his ear directed, guess'd
ing imprisoned in the chest;
ıubtful what, with prudent care
it should continue there:
h, a voice which well he knew,
ıd melancholy mew,
ıis poetic ears,
him, and dispell'd his fears;
bed, he trod the floor,
n haste, the drawers explore;
first, and, without stop,
ı order, to the top.

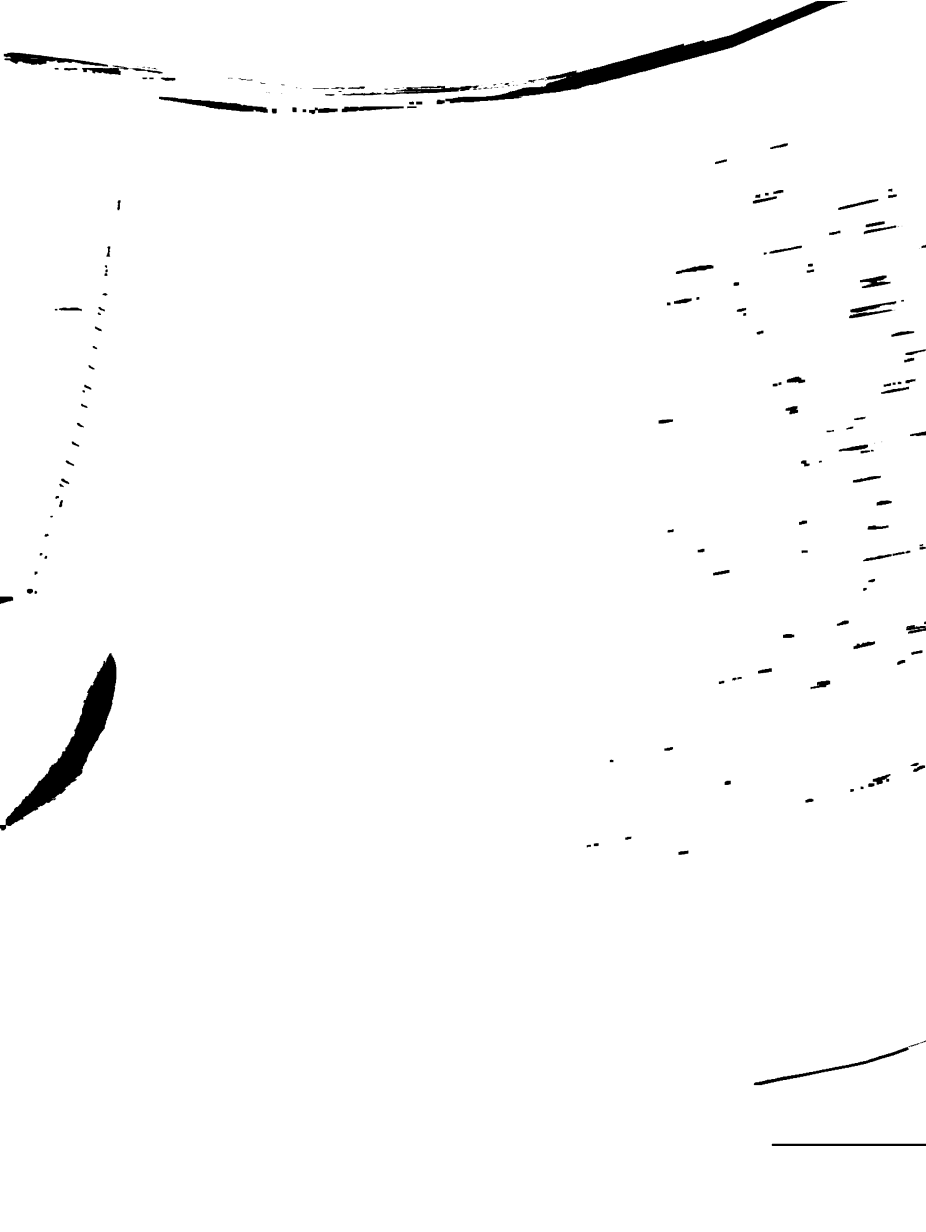
The Toad and the Ephemeron.

[From DODSLEY.]

AS some workmen were digging marble in a mountain of Scythia, they discerned a TOAD of an enormous size in the midst of a solid rock. They were very much surprised at so uncommon an appearance, and the more they considered the circumstances of it, the more their wonder increased. They could conclude no other, than that he was formed together with the rock in which he had been bred, and was coeval with the mountain itself.

While they were pursuing these speculations, the TOAD sat swelling and bloating, till he was ready to burst with pride and self-importance; to which, at last, he thus gave vent:—"Yes," says he, "you behold in me a specimen of the antediluvian race of animals. I
rotten before the flood; and who is there, among
nt upstart race of mortals, that shall dare to
vith me in nobility of birth, or dignity of
"

EMERON, sprung that morning from the river
s he was flying about from place to place,
be present, and observed all that passed
attention and curiosity. "Vain boaster!"
what foundation hast thou for pride, eith-



FABLE CXX.

The Fox and the Mask.

[Paraphrased from Esop.]

A Fox walked round a Toyman's shop,
(How he came there, pray do not ask)
t soon he made a sudden stop,
'o look and wonder at a Mask.

Mask was beautiful and fair,
perfect Mask as e'er was made;
which a Lady meant to wear
the ensuing Masquerade.

Red
Riv
Ro
Sen
She
She
She
Sill
Spa
Spa
Spo
Sta
Sun
Ter
To
Tow
Tra
Tro
Tr

FABLE CXXI.

The Spiders, Flies, and Swallows.

[From the Dutch.]

HE SPIDERS, long ago, represented to the FLIES
l the SWALLOWS, that all things were created for
use of man; and that, therefore, all animals, espe-
lly themselves, ought to make it their study to be
viceable to mankind; but that, on the contrary,
ny of them filled their clothes with moths, their
at with maggots, and defiled their sweetest and best
iors, by sipping in them themselves. The SPIDERS,
refore, commanded, that no flying thing, of what
dition or quality soever, should, for the future,
er into the houses of men, on forfeiture of life and
te; and, to render this their law the more effectual,
y instantly, before all the doors and windows, spun
r artful webs; which the FLIES not seeing, or, at
t, despising, were, as they endeavoured to fly into
houses, taken in those nets; and the SPIDERS,
er colour of justice, and that they had transgressed
known laws, put them to death, and lived in plenty
heir flesh and blood.

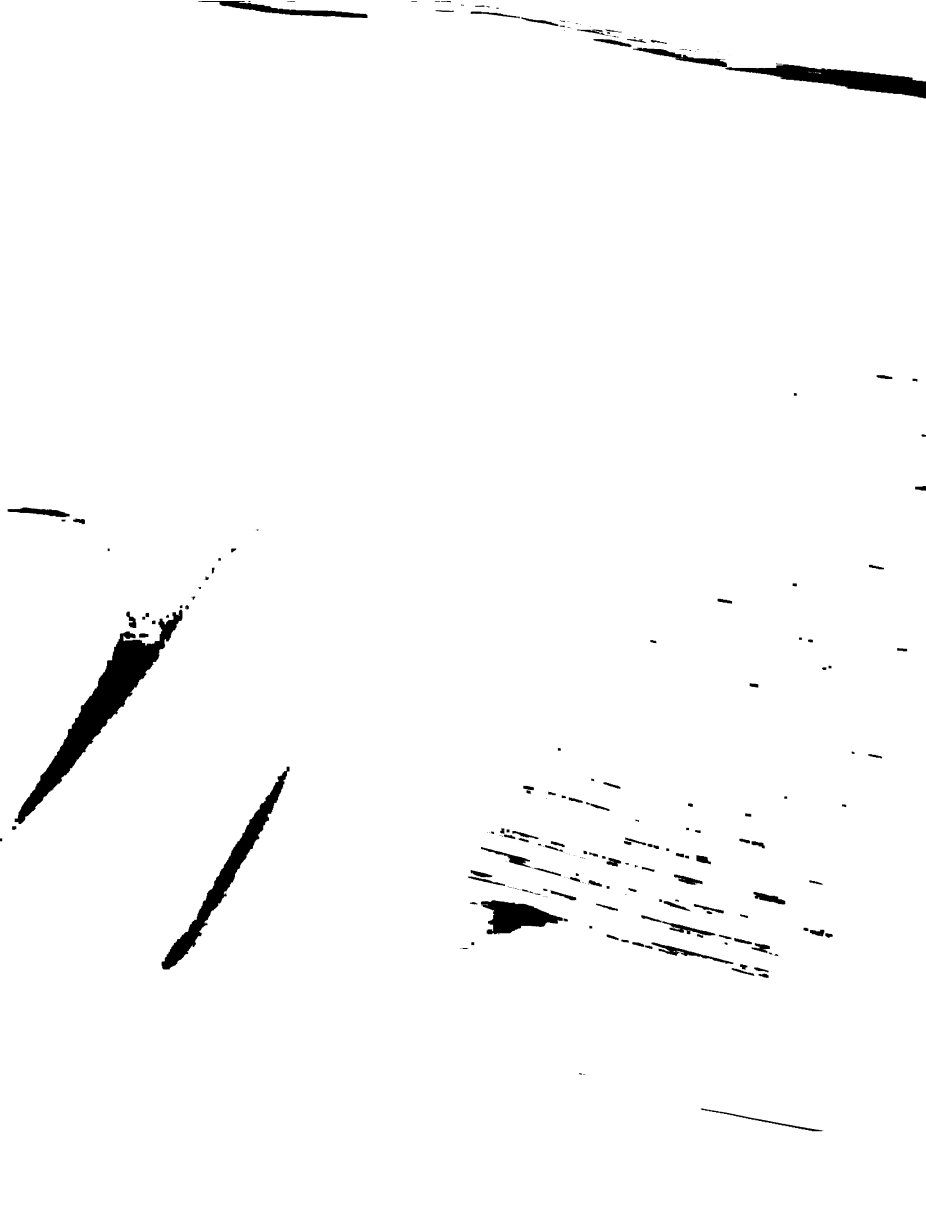
By this means, they grew very troublesome to the
s, who appointed and sent an envoy to the
LLOWS, with this message:—"The poisonous
ERS pretend, in their laws, to be very zealous for

FABLE CXXII.

The Lion, the Tiger, and the Trabeller.

[From GAY.]

A TIGER, roaming for his prey,
Sprang on a TRAVELLER in the way;
The prostrate game a LION spies,
And on the greedy tyrant flies:
With mingled roar resounds the wood;
Their teeth, their claws, distil with blood;
'Till, vanquish'd by the LION'S strength,
The spotted foe extends his length.
The Man besought the shaggy lord,
And, on his knees, for life implor'd:



To me your clemency hath shewn
The virtue worthy of a throne.
Heav'n gives you pow'r above the rest,
Like Heav'n, to succour the distress'd."

"The case is plain," the monarch said;
"False glory hath my youth misled;
For beasts of prey, a servile train,
Have been the flatt'rers of my reign.
You reason well; yet, tell me, friend,
Did ever you in courts attend?
For all my fawning rogues agree,
That human heroes rule like me."

MORAL.

It is inconsistent with true glory to triumph over a quished enemy.

vond herself, she forgot to return to her hive before n-set, when the flower closed its leaves and locked r in, where she was stifled amidst the enjoyment of ose balmy sweets.

Another FLY, who had heard of all these mis-ortunes, resolved to take warning by them, and to overn her affairs with greater prudence. She, there-ore, never sought her food on the bodies of men or beasts, who she knew could do her a mischief; but fed on sugar, and the finest fruits, where there was no danger: and thus she lived, in plenty and delight, till at length she chanced to light upon some honey; which, when she had tasted, she found so delicious, that, forgetting her former resolves of temperance, she was not content to reach it with her mouth only, but flew and set her whole body down in the midst of the clammy sweet; whence, when she had eaten her fill, she in vain endeavoured to be gone, for her legs stuck fast in the honey; and when she spread her w[illegible] ma[illegible] all her efforts to fly, she found her-[illegible]l more entangled. Thus, she soon [illegible]st her life in the too hot pursuit of [illegible]n which she had most doted.

MORAL.

[illegible]sires are never indulged with impunity.

As for master,—he sat
By the fire, with the Cat;
nd they both look as you do, contented and fat.

Your nice coat of wool,
So elastic and full,
Makes you much to be envied,—ay, more than the bull."

"How can you pretend,"
Said her poor bleating friend,
"To complain? Let me silence to you recommend.

My sorrows are deep,"
Continued the SHEEP,
And her eyes look'd as if she were ready to weep.

"I expect,—'tis no fable,—
To be dragg'd from the stable,
And, to-morrow, perhaps, cut up for the table.

Now you—with docility,
Strength, and civility,—
Will live some years longer—in all probability.

So, no envy, I beg,
For I'll bet you an egg,
I carry the spinach to eat with my leg."

MORAL.

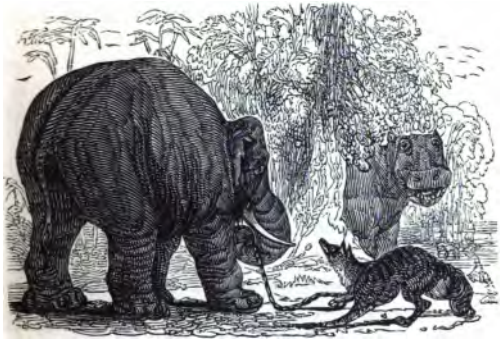
situation of those we envy is often much worse
own.

FABLE CXXVI.

The Bears and the Bees.

[By Merrick.]

As two young Bears, in wanton mood,
Forth issuing from a neighb'ring wood,
Came where th' industrious Bees had stor'd,
In artful cells, their luscious hoard;
O'erjoy'd they seiz'd, with eager haste,
Luxurious, on the rich repast.
Alarm'd at this, the little crew
About their ears vindictive flew.
The Beasts, unable to sustain
The unequal combat, quit the plain;
Half blind with rage, and mad with pain,
Their native shelter they regain;
There sit, and now discreeter grown,
Too late their rashness they bemoan;
And this, by dear experience gain,—
That pleasure's ever bought with pain.
So, when the gilded baits of vice
Are plac'd before our longing eyes,
With greedy haste we snatch our fill,
And swallow down the latent ill:
But when experience opes our eyes,
Away the fancied pleasure flies.
It flies, but oh! too late we find
It leaves a real sting behind.



FABLE CXXVIII.

The Elephant, Jackal, and Hippopotamus.

[From the Senegal Fables.]

COME, sit round the table:
I think I am able
To make you all laugh with a Senegal Fable.

I presume, Senegal
s known to you all,
land St. Louis which some people call.

ie in Africa, where
re the Lion and Bear;
and Elephant also are there.

"Shall I," HIPPO said,
"With a Pig be repaid,
Like myself? Why, sure, such a Pig ne'er was made!

"To my wife what a treasure!
My children—what pleasure!
Five yards in the girth it will certainly measure!"

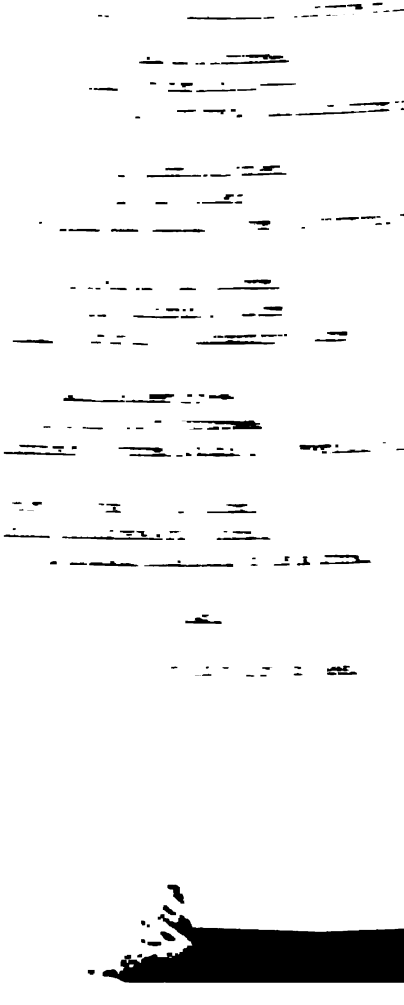
At length, came the day
For the JACKAL to pay,
With creditors both too impatient to stay.

So he went to the den
Of the ELEPHANT, then,
With a rope, for to draw the Pig out of the pen.

"It is tied to his leg,
Wind it over this peg,"
Said the JACKAL; "and mind and pull stoutly, I beg."

Now, I do not pretend
His deceit to defend,
But immediately then, with the rope's other end,

To HIPPO he ran,
To finish his plan,
"Take this!" he exclaim'd; "pull as hard as you can."

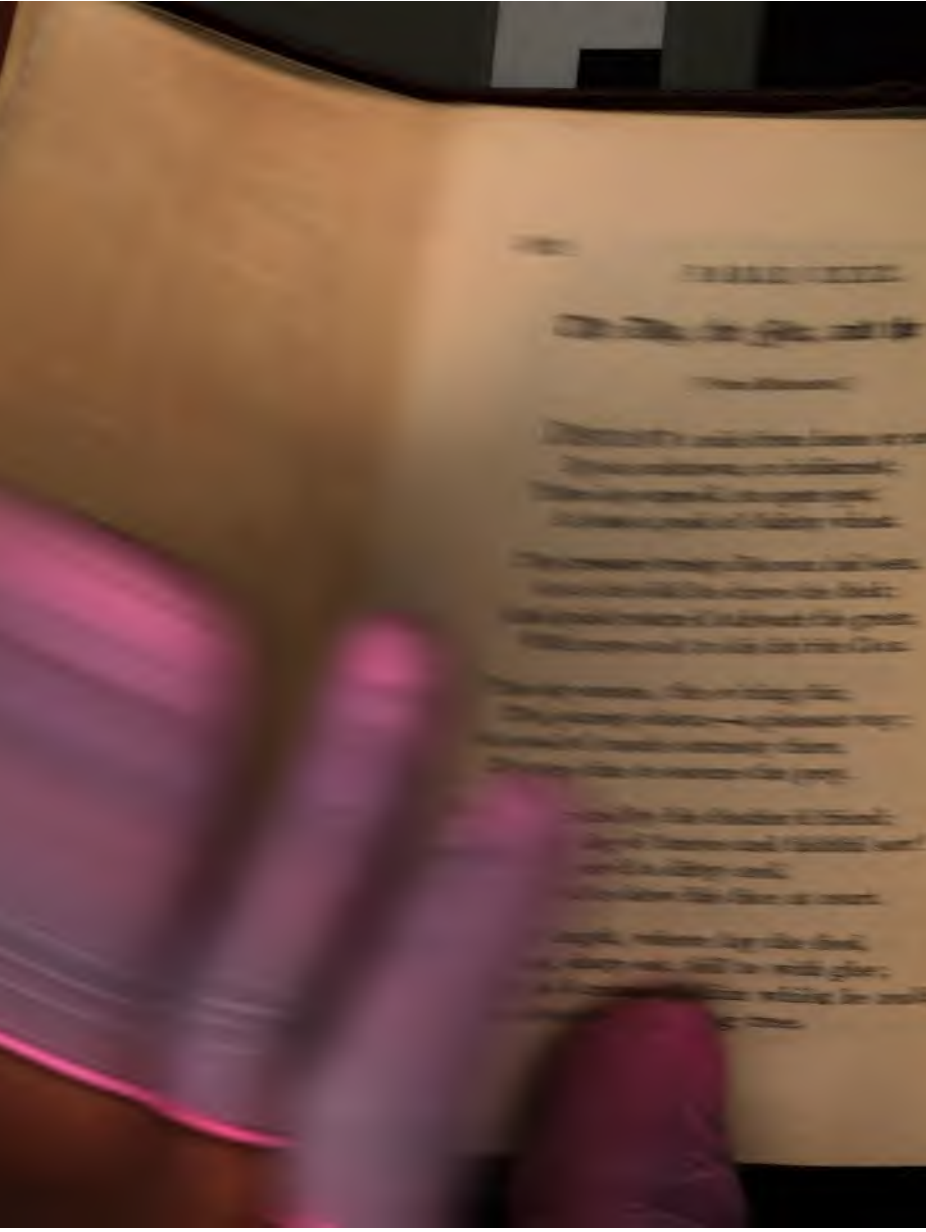


FABLE CXXIX.

The Boy and the Filberts.

[From Epictetus.]

IN *Boy* put his hand into a pitcher, where a
nty of [illegible] LBERTS were deposited: he
as man[illegible] could possibly hold; but
endeav[illegible] it out, the narrowness of
of the [illegible] ited him. Unwilling to
of the[illegible] to draw out his hand, he
nto tear[illegible] ly bemoaned his hard for-
An hon[illegible] ho stood by, gave him this
nd sea[illegible] :—"Grasp only half the
ty, my [illegible] will easily succeed."



id he, " friend, I'll make my nest,
good heap, if you agree;
day I'll eat the rest,
n we'll trudge it back,—d'ye see?"

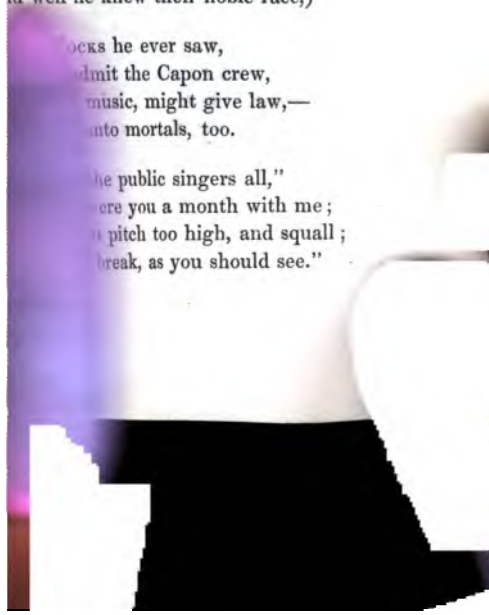
" said BOUNCE, " with all my heart;
shame to lose a meal so fine;
oak's a hollow part,
and make the kennel mine."

h were lodg'd, the bird began
aunt to heav'n, in grateful lays,
repast (Oh! shame to man!
ay but him, the debt of praise).

by his notes, a roaming Fox,
t vainly had been out on chase,
up, and swore, to all the COCKS,
id well he knew their noble race,)

ocks he ever saw,
dmit the Capon crew,
music, might give law,—
nto mortals, too.

he public singers all,"
ere you a month with me;
pitch too high, and squall;
break, as you should see."

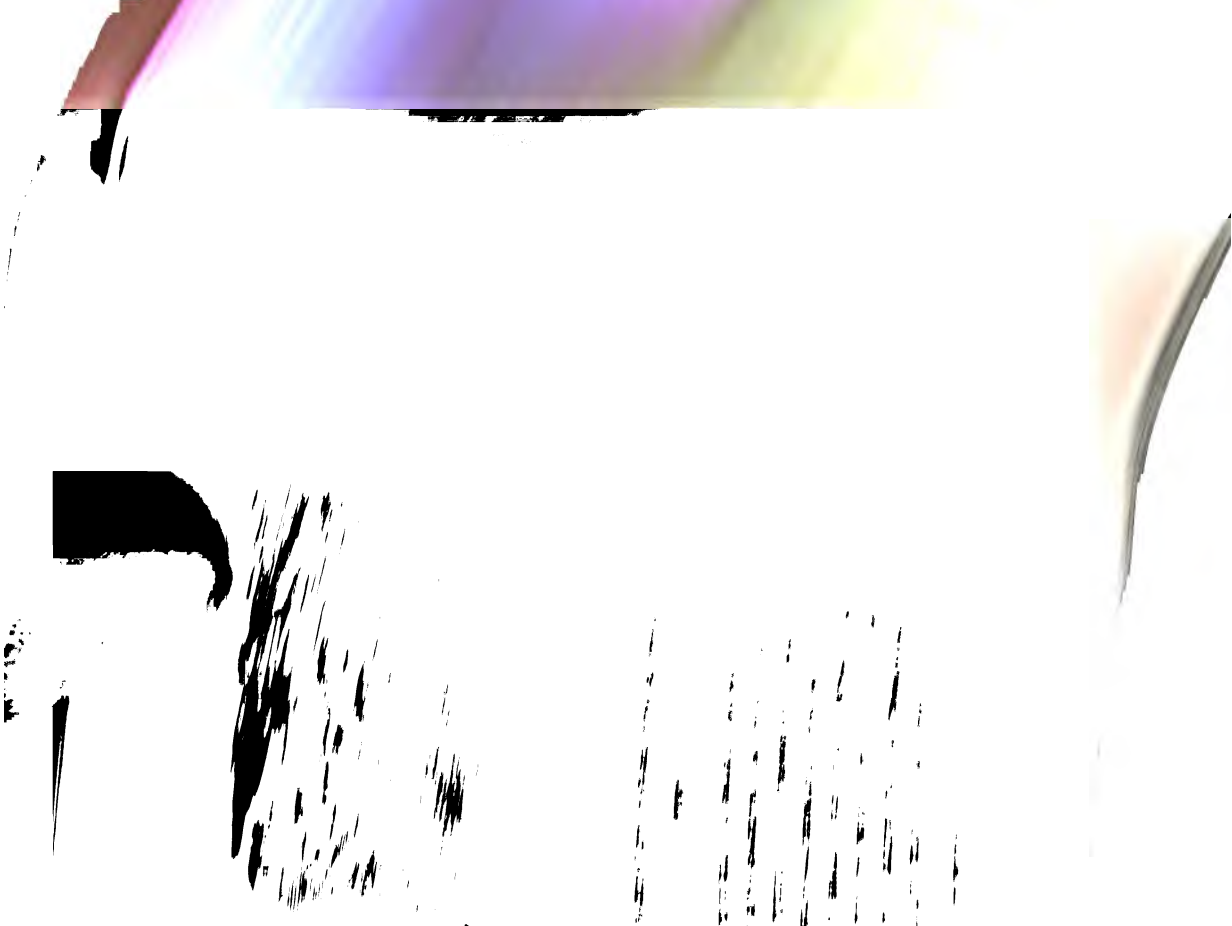


FABLE CXXXI.

The Lion, the Bear, and the Fox.

[From CROXALL.]

A LION and a BEAR meeting with the carcass of a Fawn, in the forest, agreed to decide their title to it by force of arms. The battle was severe and tough, on both sides; and they held out, tearing and worrying one another, so long, that, what with wounds and fatigue, they were so faint and weary, they were not able to strike another blow. Thus, while they lay upon the ground, panting, and lolling out their tongues, a Fox chanced to pass that way, who, perceiving how the case stood, very impudently stepped in between



FABLE CXXXII.

The Eagle and the Viper.

PEACE was proclaim'd throughout the air,
And summer shone unusual fair;
The birds and beasts no more engage,
For Jove subdu'd their hostile rage:
By his command they now enjoy'd
What Nature gave, and sense employ'd.
The magpies chatter'd on the bough,
And rooks, o'er furrows, watch'd the plough;
Young pheasants wander'd through the brake,
Fearless of foxes, cat, or snake;
And lev'rets cropp'd the clover green,
Though kites were hov'ring,—falcons seen:
A general joy inspir'd the whole
With peace, as universal soul.

But, spite of Heav'n's supreme decree,
'e rage of some would not be free;
'ed envy, spleen, and pride,
's'd its peace, and laws defied.
not enough that they had ease;
could not smile, and none should please.
bird or beast that yet surviv'd,
feel the anguish they contriv'd;
atch'd, incessant, for the hour,
rcise malicious pow'r.

spise th
not suff
, so it is
s. You
I much
to the co
gg; and,
ier, how to
purpose,

his Fable, d
he danger of
or the vice o
such easier t

You despise the CROCODILE while he is small and weak; and do not sufficiently consider, that he is a long-lived animal, so it is his peculiar property to grow as long as he lives. You see I am a poor, little, feeble creature; yet am I much more terrible to the CROCODILE, and more useful to the country, than you are. I attack him in the egg; and, while you are contriving, for months together, how to get the better of one CROCODILE, and all to no purpose, I effectually destroy fifty of them in a day.

MORAL.

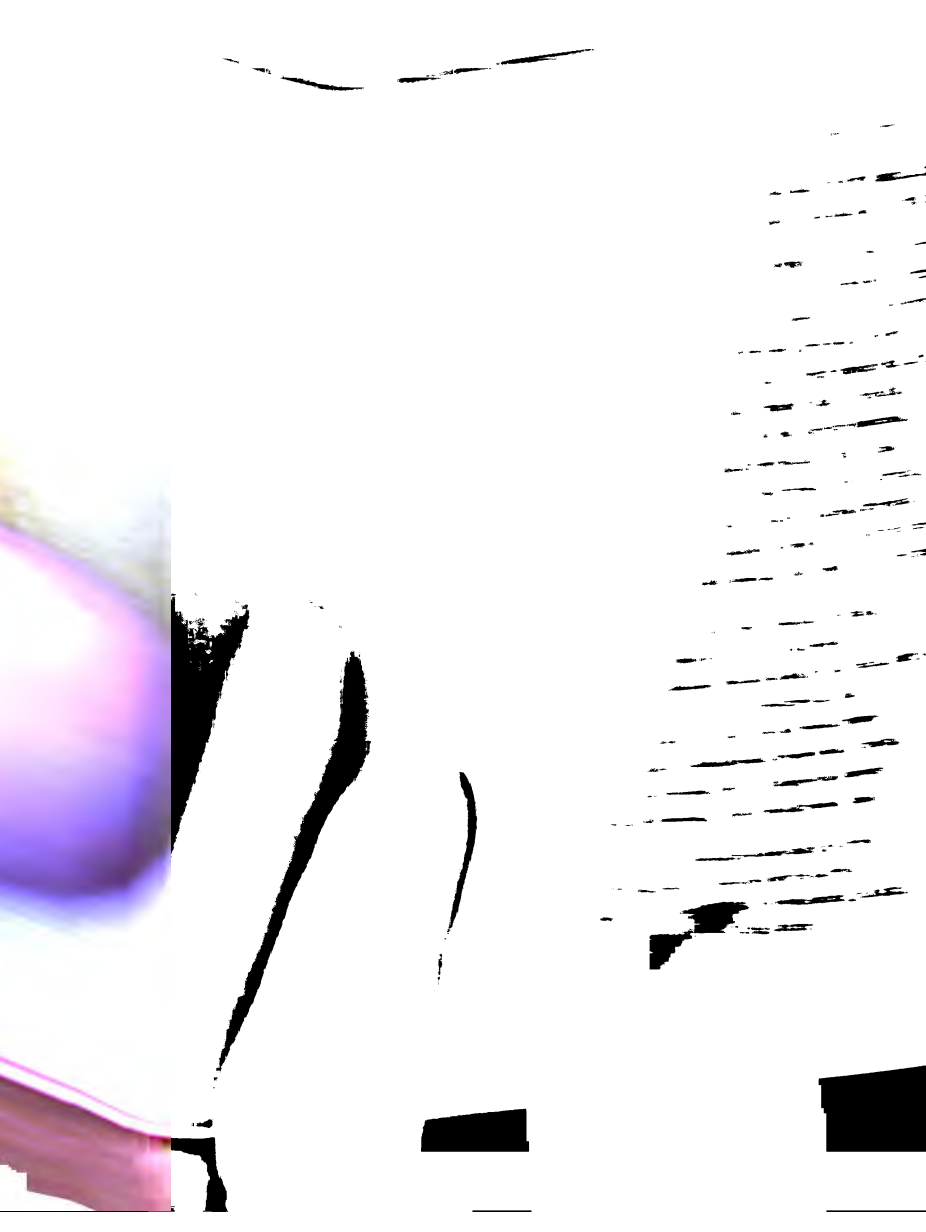
This Fable, dear boys, is intended to show
The danger of suff'ring ill habits to grow;
For the vice of a week may be conquer'd, 'tis clear
Much easier than if it went on for a year.

"Ye creeping a nts! ye crawling worms!"
It cried, with silly scorn,
While you to drag a weary life
On earth, were only born.

Behold me sip, from flow'r to flow'r,
The sweets of each parterre;
I scorn the earth, I skim the clouds,
And revel in the air.

Behold yon glorious, splendid orb,
Beyond your grov'ling sight,
To travel to its brilliant sphere,
Is but my morning's flight."

And now, to the pretended sun,
Most eager to decamp,
She dies, unpitied, scorch'd to death
Within the glowing LAMP.



FABLE CXXXVI.

The Father and Jupiter.

[From Gay.]

A Man to Jove his suit preferr'd;
He begg'd a wife; his prayer was heard:
A wife he takes; and now for heirs
Again he worries heaven with prayers.
Jove nods assent: two hopeful boys,
And a fine girl, reward his joys.

Now more solicitous he grew,
And set their future lives in view;

Beauty with early bloom supplies
His daughter's cheek, and points her eyes.
The vain coquette each suit disdains,
And glories in her lover's pains.
With age she fades, each lover flies,
Contemn'd, forlorn, she pines and dies.

When JOVE the FATHER's grief survey'd,
And heard him heav'n and fate upbraid,
Thus spoke the GOD:—"By outward show,
Men judge of happiness and woe:
Shall ignorance of good and ill
Dare to direct th' eternal will?"

MORAL.

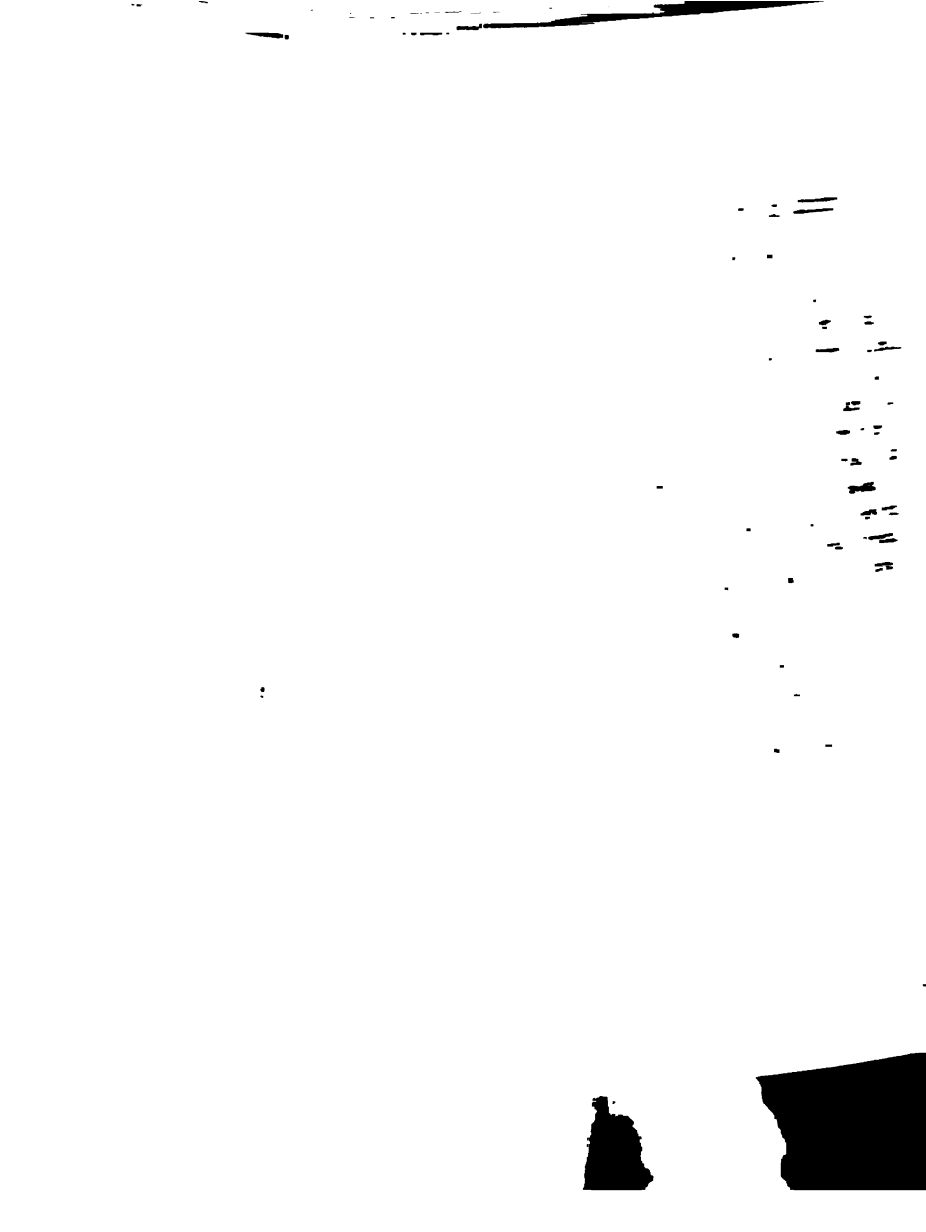
If heav'n should always grant what we think best,
We should be ruin'd by our own request.

FABLE CXXXVIII.

The Pin and the Needle.

[From GAY.]

A PIN, who long had serv'd a beauty,
Proficient in the toilet's duty,
And form'd her sleeve, confin'd her hair,
Or giv'n her knot a smarter air;
Now nearest to her heart was plac'd,
Now in her mantua's tail disgrac'd;
At length, from all her honours cast,
Through various turns of life she pass'd;
Now glitter'd on a tailor's arm,
Now kept a beggar's infant warm;



FABLE CXL.

The Goat without a Beard.

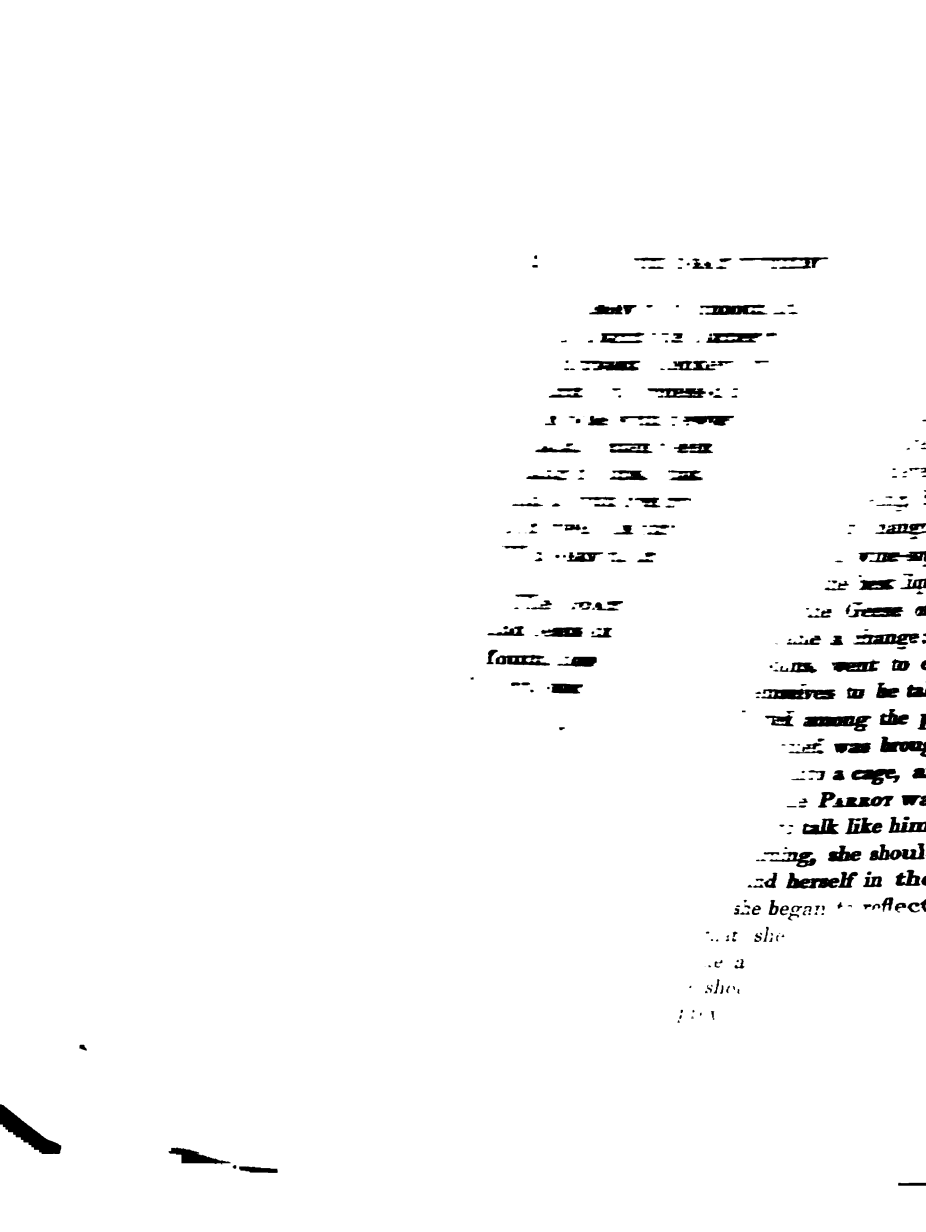
[From Gay.]

A Goat (as vain as Goat can be)
Affected singularity:
Whene'er a thymy bank he found,
He roll'd upon the fragrant ground;
And then, with fond attention, stood,
Fix'd o'er his image in the flood.

"I hate my frowsy beard," he cries,
"My youth is lost in this disguise."

Stubborn in pride, retain the mode,
And bear about the hairy load;
Whene'er we through the village stray,
Are we not mock'd along the way;
Insulted with loud shouts of scorn,
By boys our beards disgrac'd and torn?"

"Were you no more with GOATS to dwell,
Brother, I grant you reason well,"
Replies a bearded chief; "beside,
If boys can mortify thy pride,
How wilt thou stand the ridicule
Of our whole flock? Affected fool!
Coxcombs distinguish'd from the rest,
To all but coxcombs are a jest."



LII.

uppy.

y thing,

)

;

e

Its silly mother, fond to see
The frolics of her child,
Thought it quite entertaining
He should be a little wild.

She let him climb upon her back,
And bite her by the ear;
She curb'd him not, but only said
"Be quiet;—there's a dear."

The Puppy had an uncle,
A sober, quiet dog,
Who said, "I wish that urchin
Had a muzzle or a clog:

Dear sister, if you don't, in time,
Your little pet restrain,
Your visitors will quit your house,
And never come again.

You let him tumble you about,
Jump up, and knock you down;
You laugh at all his rudeness,
[illegible]u rather ought to frown.

[illegible]ht to laugh and romp,
[illegible]ourselves at home;
[illegible]d check the little brat,
[illegible] people come."

He went away; the mother cried,
"Your uncle's very cross;
But, bless me! here are visitors:
Good morning, Mr. Horse.

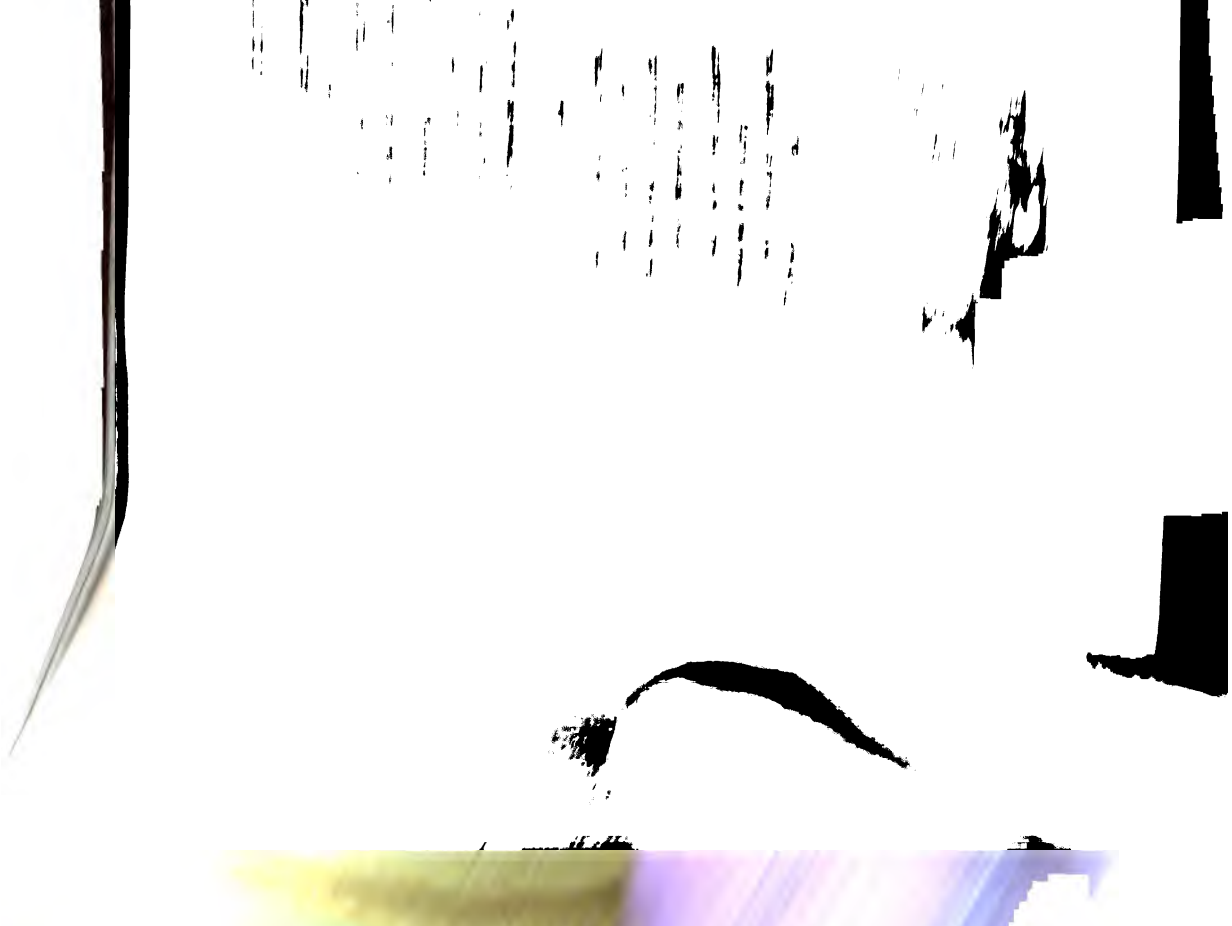
My worthy neighbour, Billy Goat,
And Mrs. Goose behind;
Come in, I'm glad to see you all;
Now this is very kind."

The uncle's prudent caution was,
It seems, of no avail;
The PUPPY jump'd about the Horse,
And twitch'd him by the tail.

He nearly sprain'd the Goose's leg,
(Such pranks were never heard,)
And then ran barking to the Goat,
And pull'd him by the beard.

Politeness made them bear it *once*,
But when it was renew'd,
They thought the PUPPY's conduct
Was insufferably rude:

The Horse's kick, Goat Billy's horn,
And from the Goose a bite,
Soon sent him yelping from the place;
I think they served him right.



FABLE CXLIII.

The Farmer, Wolf, Fox, and Hare

[From DODSLEY.]

A WOLF, a FOX, and a HARE, happened, one ev
be foraging in different parts of a FARMER'S
their first effort was pretty successful; and they ret
safety to their several quarters: however, n
cretly as to be unperceived by the FARMER'S wa
e; who, placing several kinds of snares, made
prisoner in the next attempt.

He first took the HARE to task, who confesse
l eaten a few turnip-tops, merely to satisf
nger; besought him piteously to spare her life,
mised never to enter his grounds again.

He then accosted the FOX, who, in a fawn
equious tone, protested that he came into
nises through no other motive than pure good-
restrain the HARES, and other vermin, from
der of his corn; and that he had too great a re
for him and for justice to be in the least cap
ny dishonest action.

He last of all examined the WOLF; what busi
ght him within the purlieus of a FARMER'S y
WOLF very impudently declared, it was with a
stroying his Lambs, to which he had an undoul
: that the FARMER himself was the only felon,

FABLE CXLIV.

The Lion and the Cub.

[From Gay.]

A Lion-Cub, of sordid mind,
Avoided all the Lion kind;
Fond of applause, he sought the feasts
Of vulgar and ignoble beasts:
With Asses all his time he spent,
Their club's perpetual president.
He caught their manners, looks, and airs;
An Ass in every thing but ears.
If e'er his highness meant a joke,
They grinn'd applause before he spoke;

[redacted]

FABLE CXLV.

The Cat, the Cock, and the Young Mouse.

[From Dodsley.]

A Young Mouse, that had seen very little of the world, came running, one day, to his mother in great haste: —"Oh! mother," said he, "I am frightened almost to death! I have seen the most extraordinary creature that ever was. He has a fierce, angry look, and struts about upon two legs; a strange piece of flesh grows on his head, and another under his throat, as red as blood: he flapped his arms against his sides, as if he intended to rise into the air; and stretching out his head, he opened a sharp-pointed mouth so wide, that I thought he was preparing to swallow me up: then he roared at me so horribly, that I trembled every joint, and was glad to run home as fast as I could. If I had not been frightened away by this terrible monster, I was just going to commence an acquaintance with the prettiest creature you ever saw. She had a soft fur skin, thicker than ours, and all beautifully streaked with black and grey; with a modest look, and a demeanour so humble and courteous, that methought I could have fallen in love with her. Then she had a fine long tail, which she waved about so prettily, and looked so earnestly at me, that I do believe she was just going to speak to me, when the horrid monster frightened me away."

FABLE CXLVI.

The Hare and the Tortoise.

[From Lloyd.]

A forward Hare, of swiftness vain,
The genius of the neighb'ring plain,
Would oft deride the drudging crowd,
For geniuses are ever proud.
He'd boast his flight;—'twere vain to follow,
For dog and horse,—he'd beat them hollow;
Nay, if he put forth all his strength,
Outstrip his brethren half a length.

A Tortoise heard his vain oration,
And vented thus his indignation:—
"Oh! Puss! it bodes thee dire disgrace,
When I defy thee to the race.
Come, 'tis a match,—nay, no denial;
I'll lay my shell upon the trial."
'Twas done and done! all fair,—a bet;
Judges prepared, and distance set.
The scampering Hare outstripp'd the wind;
The creeping Tortoise lagg'd behind,
And scarce had passed a single pole,
When Puss had almost reach'd the goal.

"Friend Tortoise," quoth the jeering Hare,
"Your burthen's more than you can bear;

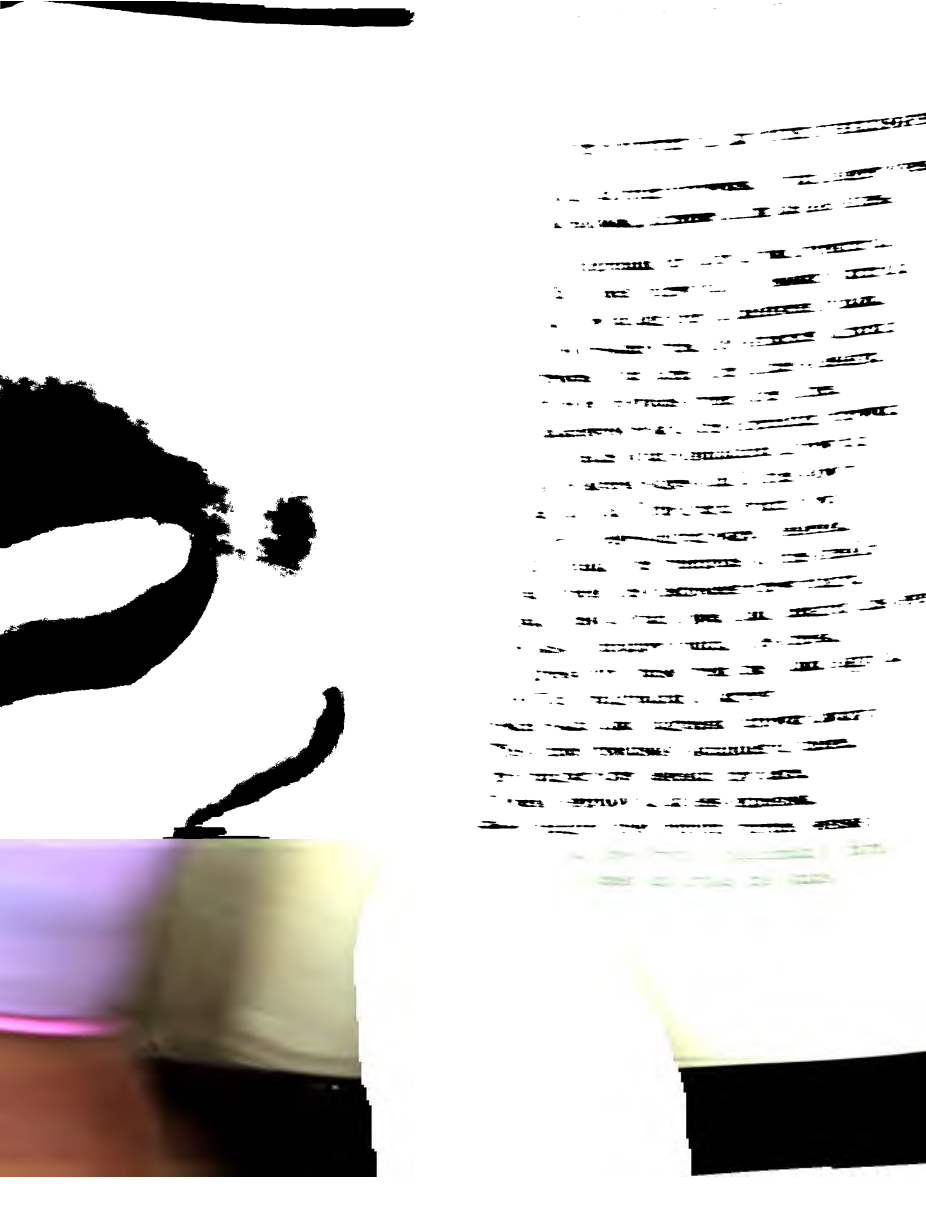
FABLE CXLVII.

The Youth and the Philosopher.

[From WHITEHEAD.]

A GRECIAN YOUTH, of talents rare,
Whom Plato's philosophic care
Had form'd for virtue's nobler view,
By precept and example too,
Would often boast his matchless skill,
To curb the steed, and guide the wheel;
And as he pass'd the gazing throng,
With graceful ease, and smack'd the thong,
The idiot wonder they express'd,
Was praise and transport to his breast.

At length, quite vain, he needs would shew
His master what his art could do;
And bade his slaves the chariot lead
To Academus' sacred shade.
The trembling grove confess'd its fright;
The wood-nymphs started at the sight;
The muses dropp'd the learned lyre,
And to their inmost shades retire.
Howe'er, the YOUTH, with forward air,
Bows to the sage, and mounts the car,
The lash resounds, the coursers spring,
The chariot marks the rolling ring;



FABLE CXLVIII.

The Monkey and the Cat.

[From La Fontaine.]

An Ape and Cat, in roguery and fun
Sworn brothers twain, both own'd a common master;
Whatever mischief in the house was done,
By Pug and Tom contriv'd was each disaster.
The feat perform'd, in chimney corner snug,
With face demure, sat cunning Tom and Pug.

By Tom were mice and rats but rarely taken;
A duck or chicken better met his wishes;
More than the rats Tom gnaw'd the cheese and bacon.
'Twas Pug's delight to break the china dishes;
And on the choicest viands oft a guttler,
Still made it seem the footman or the butler.

One winter's day, was seen this hopeful pair,
Close to the kitchen-fire, as usual, posted;
Amongst the red-hot coals the cook, with care,
Had plac'd some nice plump chesnuts to be ro
From whence, in smoke, a pungent odour rose,
Whose oily fragrance struck the MONKEY's nose.

"Tom!" says sly Pug, "pray, could not you and
Share this dessert the cook is pleas'd to cater?
Had I such claws as yours, I'd quickly try;
Lend me a hand,—'twill be a *coup-de-maître*:"
So said, he seiz'd his colleague's ready paw,
Pull'd out the fruit, and cramm'd it in his jaw.

Now came the shining priestess of the fane,
And off in haste the two marauders scamper'd.
Tom, for his share of plunder had the pain;
Whilst Pug his palate with the dainties pamper'd
Pug had the prize; Tom gain'd, at least, the learning
That Pug lov'd nuts, and gave his friend the burning

FABLE CXLIX.

The Trouts and the Gudgeon.

A Fisherman, in the month of May, was an
with an artificial fly. He threw his bait with so r
skill, that a young Trout was rushing towards it,
she was prevented by her mother. "Never," saic
"my child, be too precipitate, where there
possibility of danger. Take due time to cons
before you risk an action that may be fatal.
know you, whether yon appearance be indeed a fl
the snare of an enemy? Let some one else mak
experiment before you. If it be a fly, he, very prob

will elude the first attack; and the
made, if not with success, at least with
had no sooner uttered this caution, tha
wised upon the pretended fly, and becam
to the giddy daughter, of the great impo
mother's counsel.

MORAL.

In early youth, ere cautious doubts arise
Each glittering bait appears a golden pri
Ah! happy he, who, wise before too late,
Can draw a lesson from another's fate.

FABLE CL.

The Man and his Coat.

[From the Polish of KRASICKI.]

A MAN beat his COAT
Now and then with a cane;
And, astonish'd, one morning,
He heard it complain:

"Ungratefully treated!
My fortune is hard!
To beat me, dear master!
Is this my reward?"

"I beat you!" he answer'd,
"The charge is unjust:
I but gently endeavour
To take out the dust.

The means I make use of
To you may seem hard,
But it does not diminish
For you my regard;

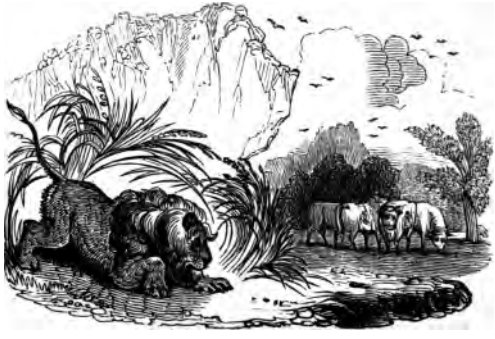
My boy, whom I dote on
More fondly than you,
I beat him now and then,
For the same reason too.

The faults that, in childhood,
'Tis right to repress,
Are like dust, or slight stains,
On a beautiful dress:

A little exertion
Will soon work a cure,
And will make both more lovely,
More worthy, more pure."

Though this Fable is good,
Yet ... will blush,
To ... usting
... a brush.

... ders,
... plain,
...
... he cane.



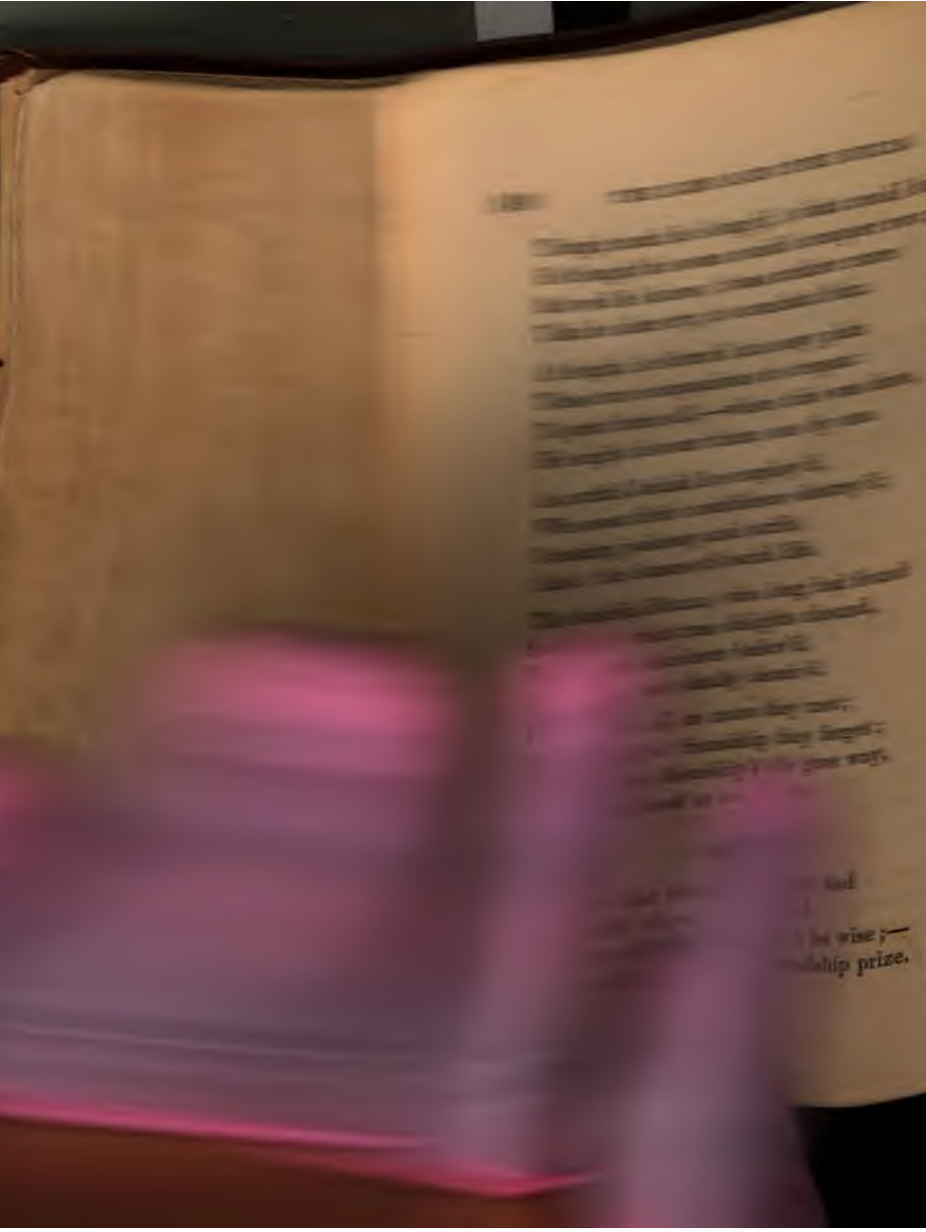
FABLE CLI.

The Lion and the Bulls.

[Paraphrased from Esop.]

FOUR Bulls within a forest fed,
And very pleasant lives they led;
What one proposed, obtain'd consent;
And all were happy and content.

A Lion in the forest dwelt,
And much propensity he felt
To eat them up,—for, to be brief,
He was extremely fond of beef.



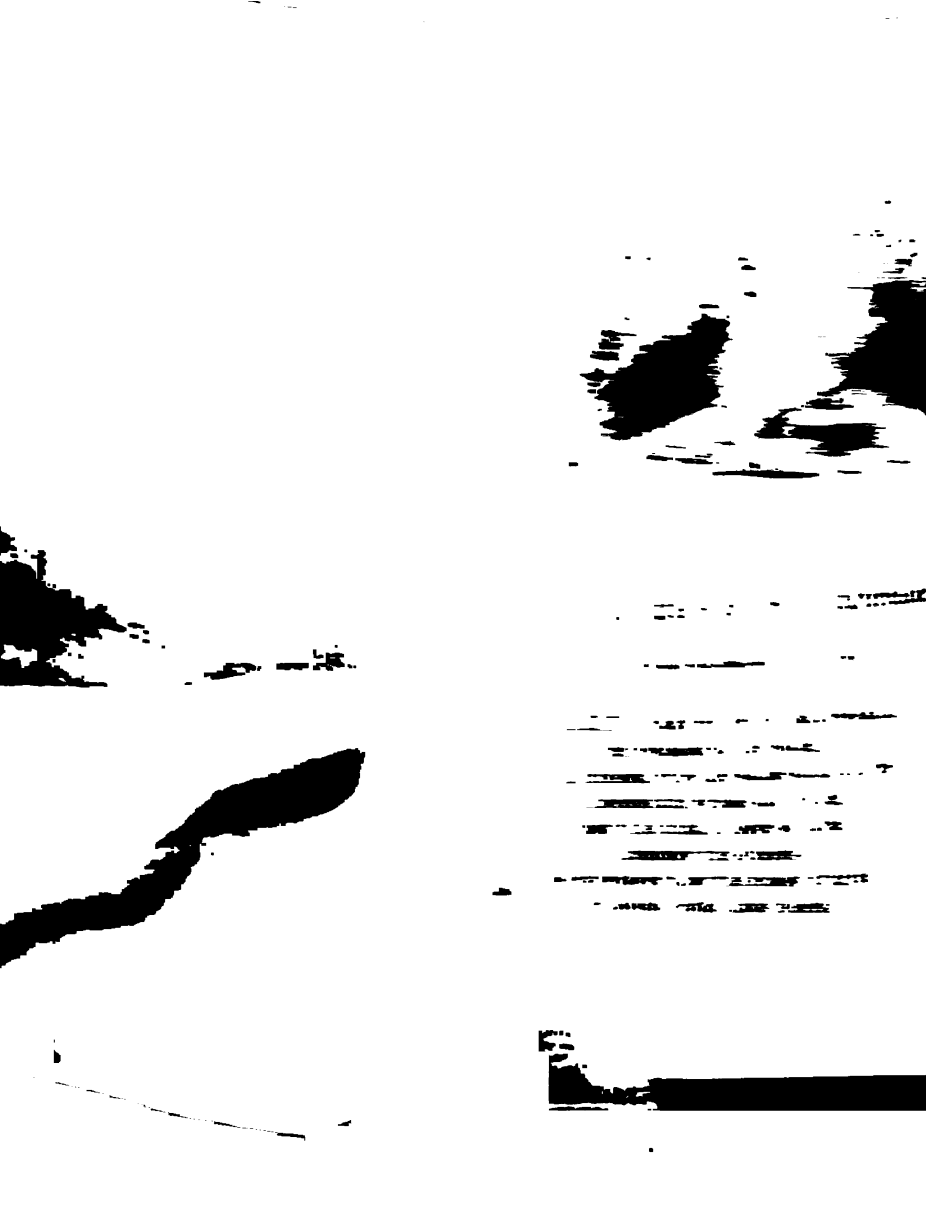
FABLE CLII.

The Goldfinch and her Master.

[From the Dutch.]

A Goldfinch, whom her master had long kept in a cage, and fed with great care, found once the door of the cage open, and immediately flew into the open air. Her master, who happened to see her perched upon a tree, put her in mind how carefully and plentifully he had fed her, and what a scanty livelihood she would get abroad, especially in the winter, when all the woods and fields are covered with snow, and all the waters frozen up, so that then she would not know where to creep, to preserve herself from hunger, thir[illegible] and [illegible]d: he, therefore, promised her that he w[illegible] much, nay, more care of her than he [illegible] provided she would fly back into her [illegible] him as she was wont to do.

[illegible]d answered:—"That she had no reason [illegible]ent; but that she should [illegible]hile her good or ill fortune [illegible] or neglect of a master; [illegible]e so well assured of his [illegible] her own to herself. That, [illegible]ather live abroad, out of the [illegible]ubject, as she must be in [illegible]e of another."



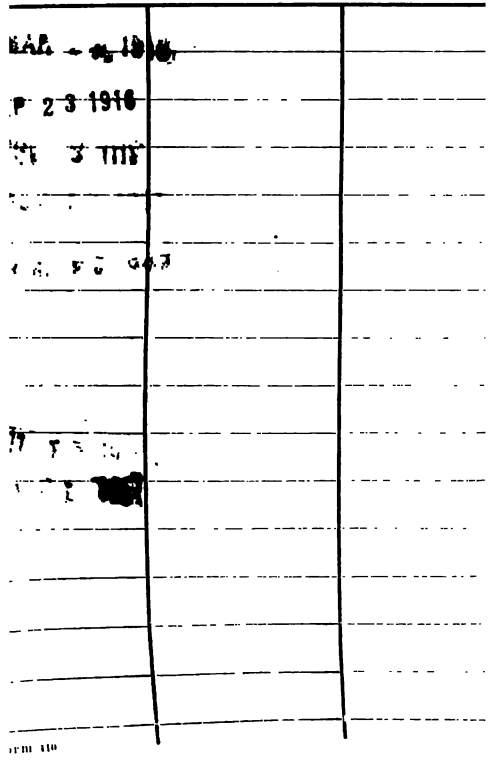
" I do not want admirers,"
Said the little silly thing;
For many folks, in harvest time,
Will stop to hear me sing.
I do not want admirers,
And many come from far."
The NIGHTINGALE said:—" Little one,
Pray tell me who they are."

" The reapers of the corn-field, sir;
And, surely, you'll allow,"
Said the CRICKET, " in a country
So dependent on the plough,
They are most important people."
" Very true," replied the bird;
" But of their taste for music,
I confess, I never heard.

The reapers and the labourers,
With ev'ry working class,
Have their worth and their abilities,
No songster can surpass:
To these they should confine themselves,
Nor aim beyond their sphere;
They well can judge of what they *do*,
But not of what they *hear*.

So take advice, my little friend,
In future be not vain;
Nor anxious the applauses
Of the ignorant to gain.
Your music, for a CRICKET's,
Is the best I ever knew;
But it is not *quite* a NIGHTINGALE's."
And so away she flew.

Vizetelly, Branston and Co. Printers, Fleet Street, London.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

This book is under no circumstances to be taken from the Building